The Power of ASSETS

Protecting youth from High-Risk Behaviors



The St. Francis County
Youth Risk Behavior
Survey Report

February 2003
Presented by the
St. Francis County
Hometown Health Network

Coordinated by:

St. Francis County Hometown Health Improvement

and

Arkansas Department of Health
Center for Health Statistics

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What is the Youth Risk Behavior Survey?

The Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) was designed to measure health risk behaviors, such as smoking, drinking and driving, and obesity, among the nation's youth. Developed by the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in Atlanta, Georgia, the 87-item, multiple-choice YRBS questionnaire was tested and revised several times prior to implementation to assure that results would be both accurate and useful. The survey has been used nationally, at a statewide level, and locally.

During January, 2003, usable YRBS questionnaires were completed by 1309 seventh through twelfth grade students throughout St. Francis County public schools. The information provided by those students is presented in this report.

Why did St. Francis County conduct the YRBS?

St. Francis County was selected by the Arkansas Department of Health (ADH) to participate in Hometown Health Improvement (HHI), a new community health assessment project. St. Francis County HHI is working to assess the specific health needs of St. Francis County residents. In order to collect information on the health behaviors of the community's youth, HHI coalition members requested that the Youth Risk Behavior Survey be administered to the students in the seventh through twelfth grades at St. Francis County schools.

The YRBS will help St. Francis County identify students' current health and safety habits so that improvements can be made where needed. Healthy lifestyles for St. Francis County students mean longer, more productive lives for the county's young people, as well as improved learning in the classroom.

The 2001-2002 YRBS also provides St. Francis County with measures for evaluating future trends in health habits of youth. Survey results can now serve as a valuable tool, particularly for legislators, policy makers, school administrators, and teachers as they make decisions about new disease-prevention and health-promotion policies, services, programs, and educational activities. Parents and students can use these results to evaluate potential changes toward better health. Specifically, YRBS' findings form a valuable base upon which St. Francis County can strengthen its ability to:

- Establish disease prevention and health promotion policies;
- Plan and implement programs and services;

- Secure funding for programs;
- Allocate limited resources toward targeted needs and priorities;
- Conduct future research and note progress or deficiencies, and
- Enact laws to prevent injuries and unnecessary deaths.

How was the YRBS conducted?

During January, 2003, seventh through twelfth grade students enrolled in St. Francis County public schools completed the YRBS. All students who attended school on the day that their school administered the test to their grade were eligible to participate, but their participation was voluntary. The following St. Francis County schools' students participated in the survey:

- Hughes
- Forrest City

About This Report

This report entitled "2001-2002 St. Francis County Youth Risk Behavior Survey" summarizes the overall answers St. Francis County's students reported about safety, diet and exercise, alcohol, tobacco, and other health risk behaviors. St. Francis County's survey of public schools provides a "snapshot" of students' behaviors. The survey contains questions related to:

- Behaviors that result in intentional and unintentional injuries;
- Tobacco use;
- Alcohol and other drug use;
- Sexual behaviors that result in HIV infection, other sexually-transmitted diseases (STD's), and unintentional pregnancies; and
- Physical activity and nutrition.

This report summarizes St. Francis County's findings on the priority health risks that result in the most significant causes of death and disability of youth in Arkansas. Written for concerned educators, policy makers, parents, and youth, this YRBS report provides a brief overview of:

- The survey's process and procedures;
- Survey questions;
- Students' answers;
- Percentage of YRBS participants giving those answers; and
- Major summary findings.

How Results Can Be Interpreted

St. Francis County's 2001-2002 Youth Risk Behavior Survey is a "snapshot in time" showing those health-risk behaviors reported by St. Francis County students in January, 2003. Answers in this survey were only as accurate as students' reporting. Each student interpreted the terms in each question according to his or her own definitions. For instance, is a pocketknife a "weapon?" What area does "on school property" include? Some students chose not to answer certain questions, meaning that not all students surveyed were represented in every response. Answers were edited for consistency using the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's YRBS data editing guidelines. For example, if a student reported that he or she had driven under the influence of alcohol, but reported that he or she had never had a drink of alcohol, the answers for those questions were deleted from the survey. Additionally, some students chose not to answer certain questions.

The percentages presented in this report were rounded to the nearest whole percent. For example, 75.5% would be reported as 76%, while 75.4% would be reported as 75%. Due to this rounding, total percentages may add up to 99% or 101%.

Sincere Appreciation To:

- The superintendents, principals, counselors, nurses, and teachers of St. Francis
 County schools who so graciously gave of their time and energy to see this
 survey through to its completion;
- The St. Francis County students who completed the YRBS questionnaires;
- The United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Division of Adolescent and School Health's Surveillance Research Section, which developed the survey process and questionnaire;
- Gary Ragen and the ADH Division of Emergency Medical Services for scanning the survey forms;
- Kathleen Courtney and the Arkansas Department of Education for support and assistance with this project.

Interested individuals may request additional information. Researchers and professional wanting to build upon St. Francis County's 2001-2002 YRBS data may request additional data from:

St. Francis County Hometown Health Improvement Melissa Ward 413 N. Division Forrest City, AR 72335

> Ph. (870) 633-1340 mlward@healthyarkansas.com

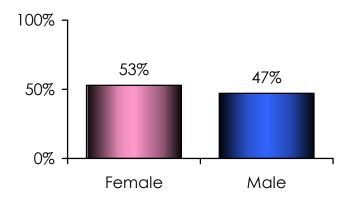
For more information about the Youth Risk Behavior Survey or analysis of the survey data, please contact:

Arkansas Center for Health Statistics Sharon Rose Judah, Lead Programmer Analyst Ph. (501) 661-2971 sjudah@healthyarkansas.com

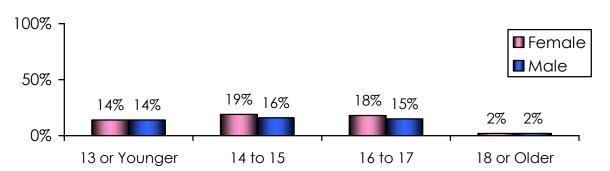
Demographics of survey participants:

Total number of survey participants = 1309

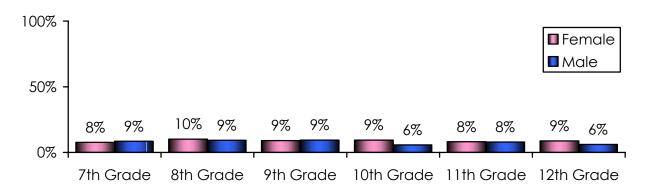
Gender



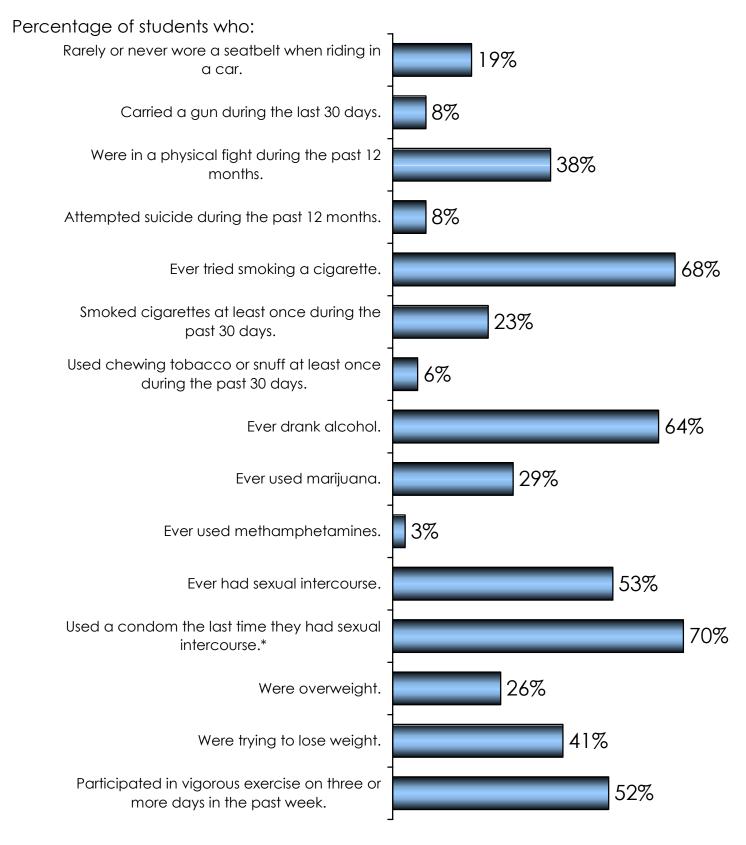
Age



Grade

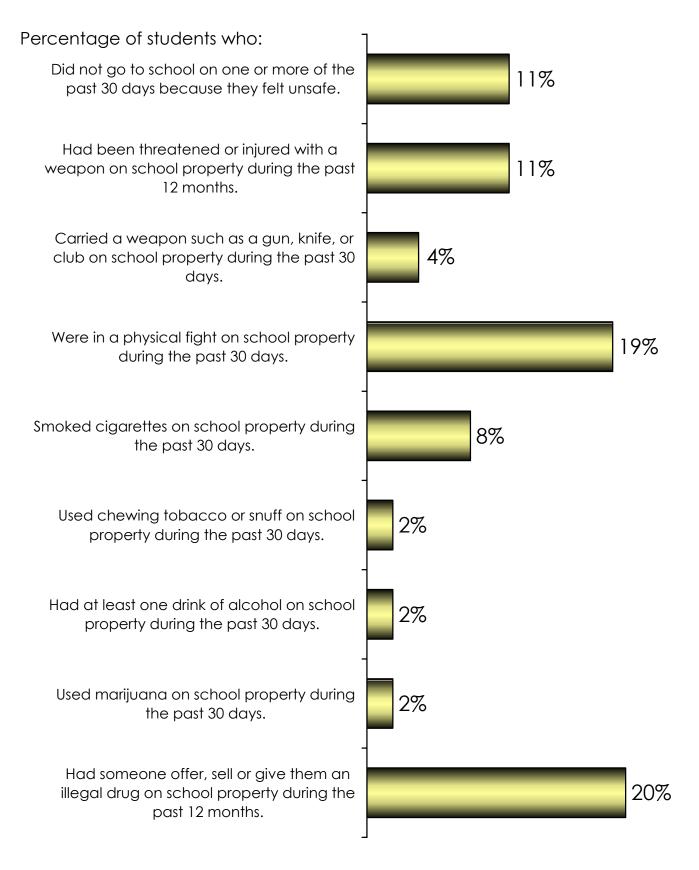


Summary of St. Francis County YRBS Findings



^{*} of those who had ever had sexual intercourse.

Summary of Behaviors Relating to School Property



Key findings

The following summaries highlight St. Francis county students' responses on the youth risk behavior survey in key areas and provide an overview of St. Francis county students' current activities which impact their health.

Behaviors that result in injuries

- Of the students who had ridden a motorcycle during the 12 months prior to the survey, 53% said they rarely or never wore a helmet. Ninety-two percent of the students who had ridden a bicycle in the year prior to the survey indicated that they never or rarely wore a helmet.
- Thirty-one percent of the students surveyed said that during the previous month they had ridden in a vehicle driven by someone who had been drinking alcohol. Nine indicated they had driven a vehicle after drinking alcohol during the past 30 days.
- Sixteen percent of students carried a weapon such as a gun, knife, or club in the past 30 days, and 4% carried a weapon on school property during that time.
- During the 12 months preceding the survey, 38% of the students had been in a physical fight one or more times. Of those students who had been in a physical fight, 13% had to be treated for injuries sustained while fighting.
- Twelve percent of the students surveyed reported they had been hit, slapped, or physically hurt on purpose by a boyfriend or girlfriend at least once during their lives.
- Ten percent of the students indicated being forced to have sexual intercourse when they did not want to at least once during their lives.

Depression and suicide

- Thirty percent of students indicated they had felt so sad or hopeless for two
 weeks or longer that they stopped doing some of their usual activities.
- During the 12 months before being surveyed, 13% of students had seriously considered attempting suicide, 11% had made a plan about how they would attempt suicide, and 8% actually attempted to commit suicide. Three percent of students surveyed reported they were treated by a doctor or nurse for an injury, overdose, or poisoning resulting from a suicide attempt.

Tobacco use

- Sixty-eight percent of the students surveyed said they had tried smoking a cigarette. Twenty-three percent reported smoking cigarettes on one or more of the past 30 days. Of the students who smoked during the past month, 54% said they usually smoked two or more cigarettes on the days they smoked, and 20% said they usually got their own cigarettes by purchasing them at a store. Fifty-nine percent of the student smokers who purchased cigarettes in a store in the month before the survey were not asked to show proof of age when they purchased cigarettes.
- Six percent of the students had used chewing tobacco or snuff on one or more of the past 30 days, and 2% had used it on school property.
- Twelve percent of the students surveyed indicated they had smoked cigars, cigarillos, or little cigars at least once during the previous month.

Alcohol and other drug use

- Sixty-four percent of the students surveyed indicated they had at least one drink of alcohol other than just a few sips at least once during their lives, and 34% had taken their first drink by the age of 13.
- Thirty-one percent of the students had taken at least one drink of alcohol in the month before the survey, and 15% had five or more drinks in a row, that is, within a couple of hours, on one or more of the past 30 days.
- Twenty-nine percent of the students said they had used marijuana at least once during their lives. Thirteen percent said they had smoked marijuana at least once during the last month.
- Twelve percent said they had sniffed glue, breathed the contents of aerosol spray cans, or inhaled any paints or sprays to get high at least once during their lives. Four percent had done so during the past month.
- Three percent of the students surveyed had tried methamphetamines, 1% tried heroin, and 2% had tried cocaine at least once during their lives. One percent had used a needle to inject an illegal drug into their bodies at least once.
- Three percent of the students surveyed had taken steroid pills or shots without a doctor's prescription.

Sexual activity

- Fifty-three percent of the students who completed the survey said they had sexual intercourse. Twenty percent of the students reported having four or more sexual partners during their lifetimes. Of the students who had sexual intercourse, 19% had used drugs or alcohol before their last sexual encounter, and 70% used a condom the last time they had sex.
- Eight percent of the students surveyed reported that they had ever been or gotten someone pregnant.

Dietary behaviors

- Twenty-six percent of the students surveyed were overweight, as measured by body mass index. The body mass index, or BMI, is a ratio of weight to height that allows people of different heights to be compared.
- While only 26% of the students are considered overweight as measured by BMI, 22% of the students perceived themselves as slightly to very overweight, and 41% reported that they were trying to lose weight.
- Thirty-six percent of the students ate less during the past 30 days to lose or keep from gaining weight, and 53% exercised, 7% vomited or took laxatives, 9% took diet pills, and 16% went without eating for 24 hours or more to lose weight or keep from gaining weight.

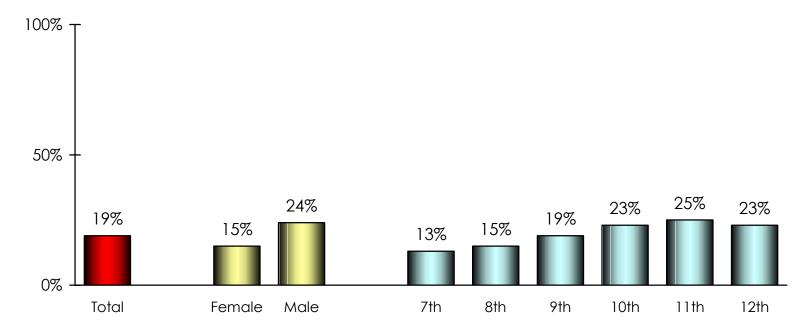
Physical activity

- Fifty-two percent of the students surveyed said they had participated in a
 physical activity for at least 30 minutes that made them sweat and breathe
 hard on three or more of the past 7 days. Thirty-three percent said they
 participated in a physical activity for at least 30 minutes on three or more
 days during the past week which did not make them sweat or breathe hard.
- Thirty-five percent of the students attended a physical education (PE) class at least once during an average school week, and 54% said they had played on one or more sports teams during the past year.

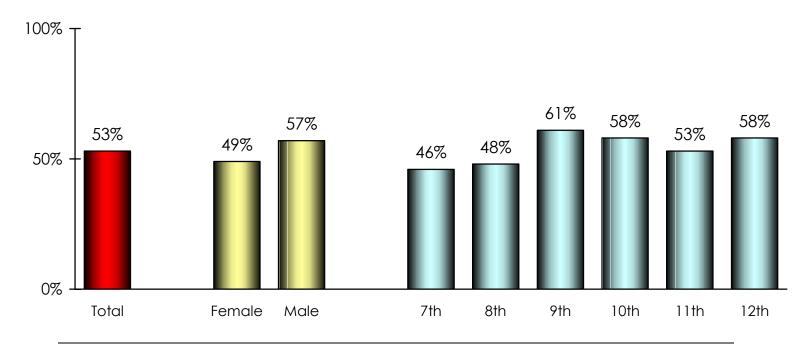
Vehicle Safety

These questions measure the frequency with which students take safety precautions when riding in a motor vehicle, riding a motorcycle or a bicycle.

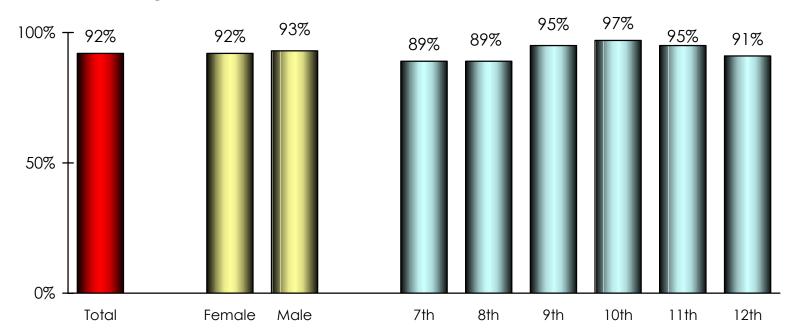
Percentage of students who never or rarely wore a seat belt when riding in a car driven by someone else.



Of students who rode a motorcycle during the past 12 months, the percentage who never or rarely wore a helmet.



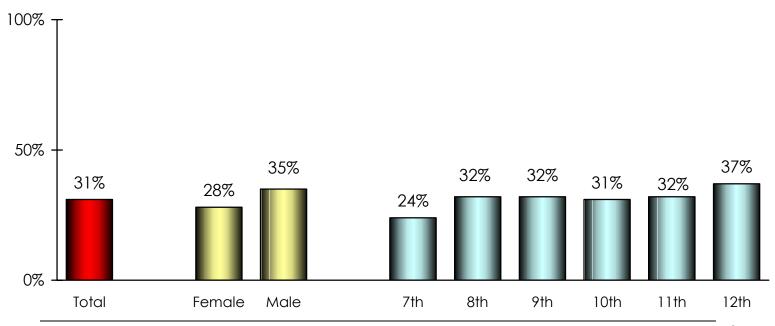
Of students who rode a bicycle during the past 12 months, the percentage who never or rarely wore a bicycle helmet.



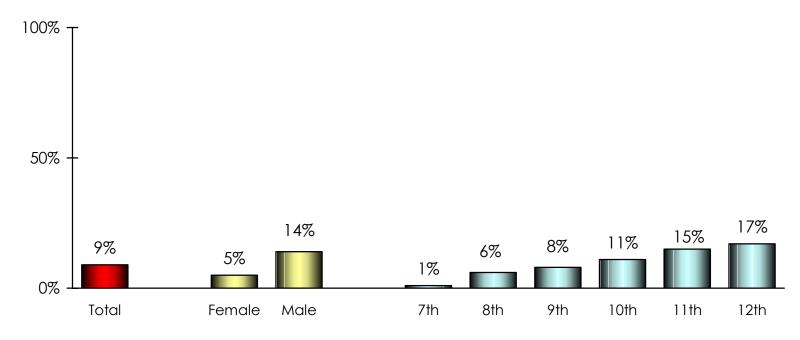
Vehicle Safety – Drinking and Driving

These questions measure the frequency with which students ride as a passenger or driver in a motor vehicle operated under the influence of alcohol.

Percentage of students who during the past 30 days rode one or more times in a car or other vehicle driven by someone who had been drinking alcohol.



Percentage of students who during the past 30 days drove a car or other vehicle one or more times when they had been drinking alcohol.

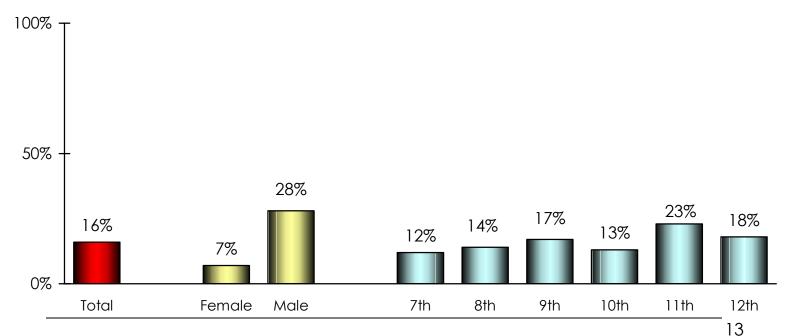


Violence-Related Behaviors

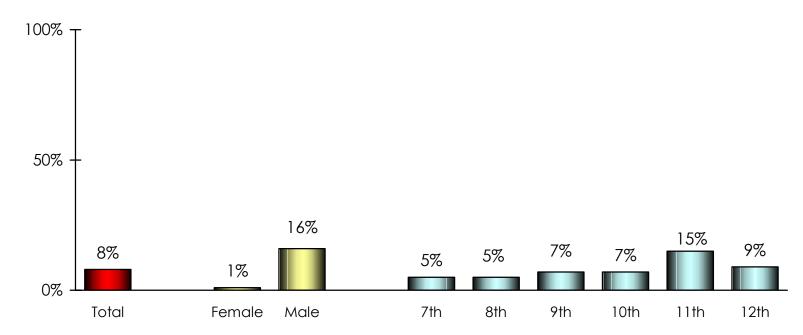
These questions measure violence-related behaviors.

Percentage of students who carried a weapon* on one or more of the past 30 days.

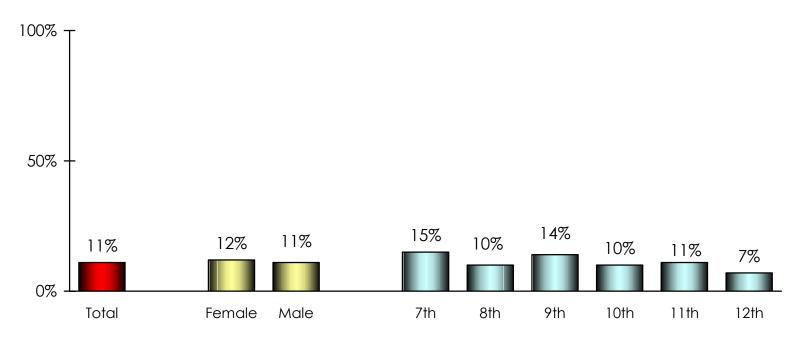
* such as a gun, knife, or club



Percentage of students who carried a gun on one or more of the past 30 days.



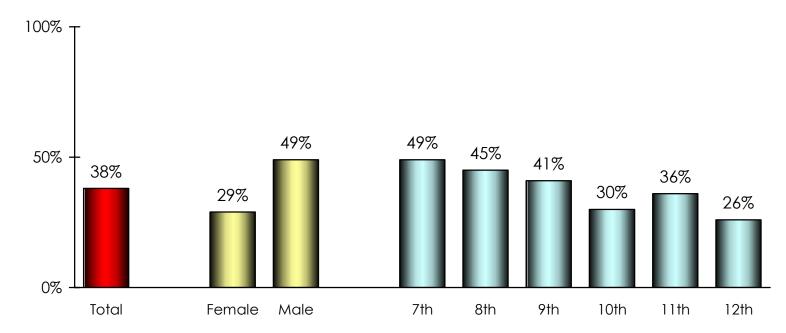
Percentage of students who did not go to school on one or more of the past 30 days because they felt unsafe at school or on their way to or from school.



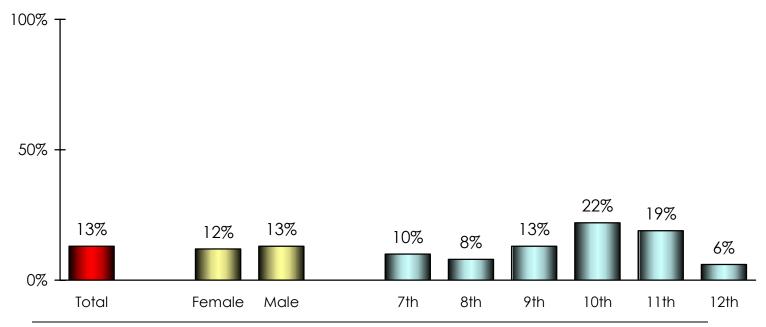
■ Violence – Physical Fighting

These questions measure the frequency and severity of physical fights.

Percentage of students who were in a physical fight one or more times during the past 12 months.



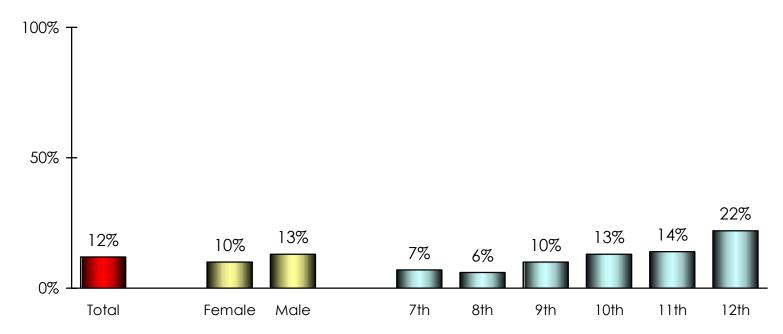
Of students who had been in a physical fight in the past 12 months, the percentage who had to be treated by a doctor or nurse one or more times.



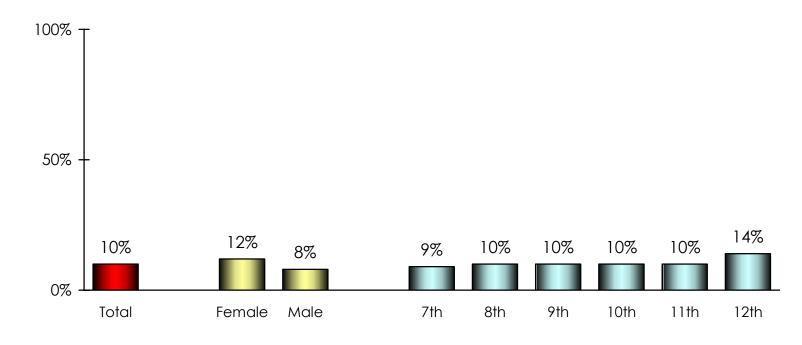
■ Violence - Sexual Violence

These questions measure rape and domestic violence.

Percentage of students who were hit, slapped, or physically hurt on purpose by a boyfriend or girlfriend.



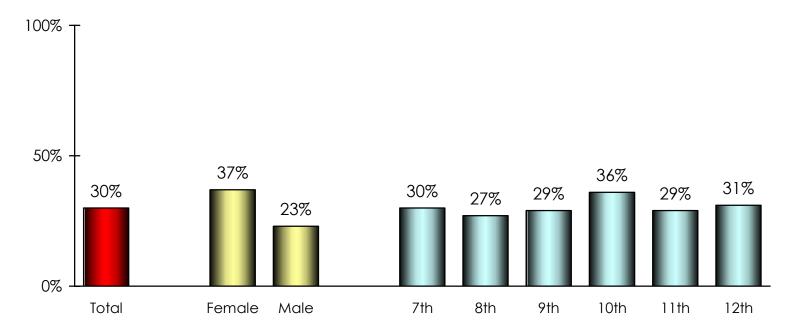
Percentage of students who have ever been forced to have sexual intercourse when they did not want to.



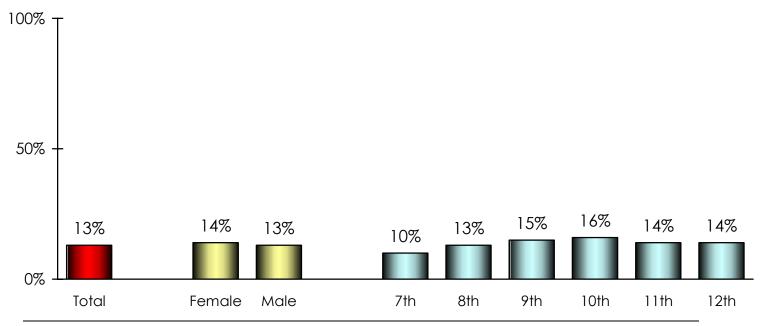
Depression and Suicide

These questions measure depression, suicide, suicide attempts, and the seriousness of those attempts.

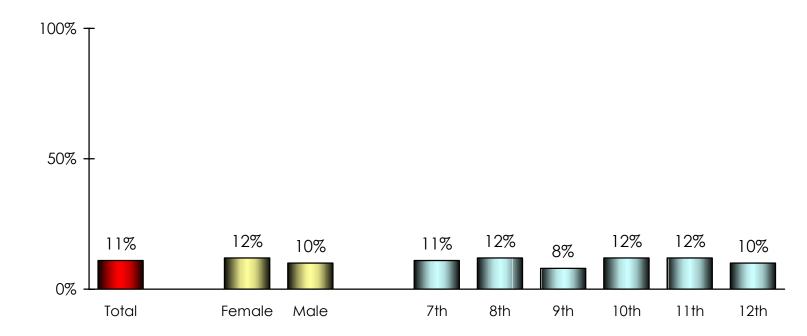
Percentage of students who felt so sad or hopeless for two weeks or longer that they stopped doing some of their usual activities.



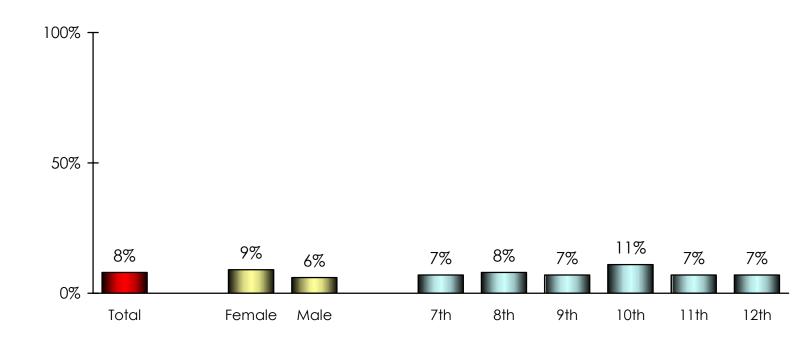
Percentage of students who seriously considered attempting suicide during the past 12 months.



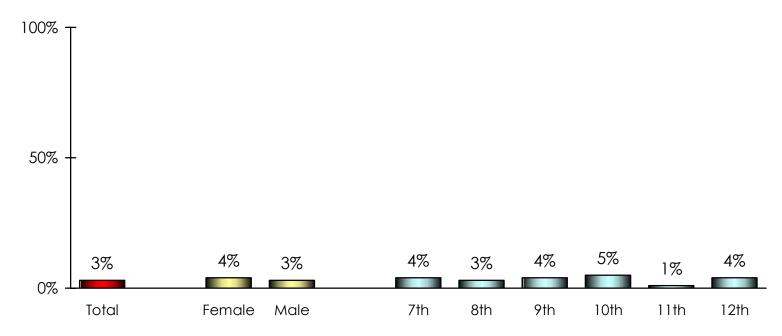
Percentage of students who made a plan about how they would attempt suicide during the past 12 months.



Percentage of students who actually attempted suicide one or more times during the past 12 months.



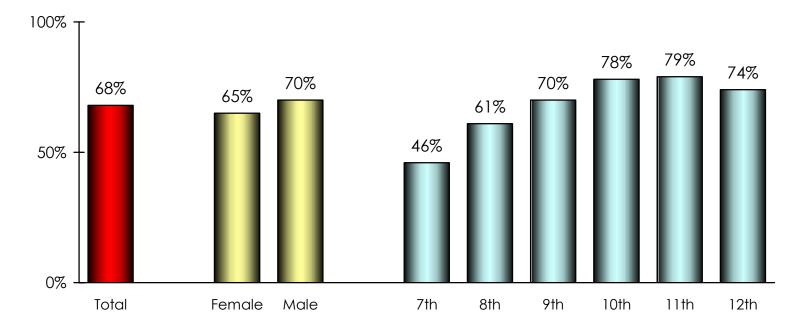
Percentage of students who attempted suicide during the past 12 months resulting in injury, poisoning or overdose that had to be treated by a doctor or nurse.



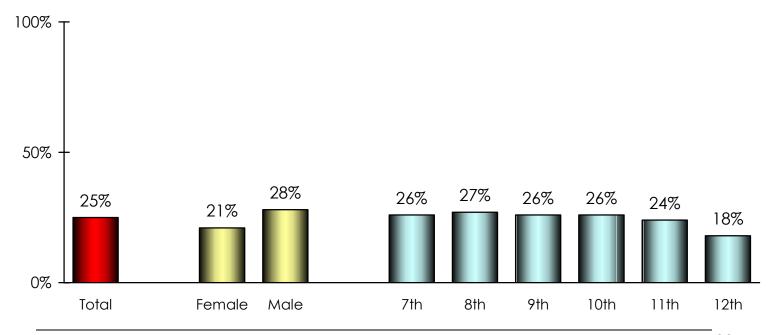
■ Tobacco Use – Cigarette Smoking

These questions measure smoking experimentation, current smoking patterns, age of initiation and attempt to quit smoking cigarettes.

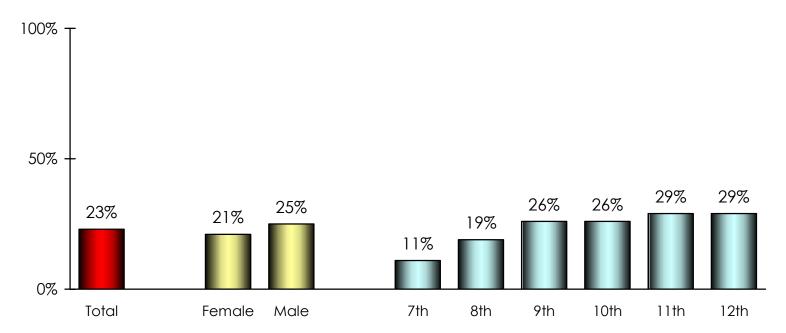
Percentage of students who ever tried cigarette smoking, even one or two puffs.



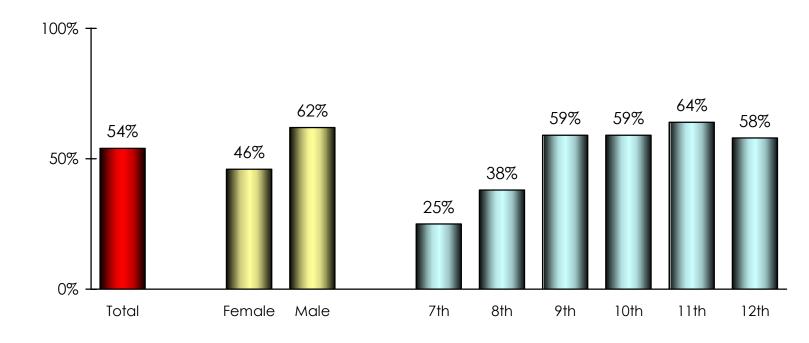
Percentage of students who smoked a whole cigarette for the first time before age 13.



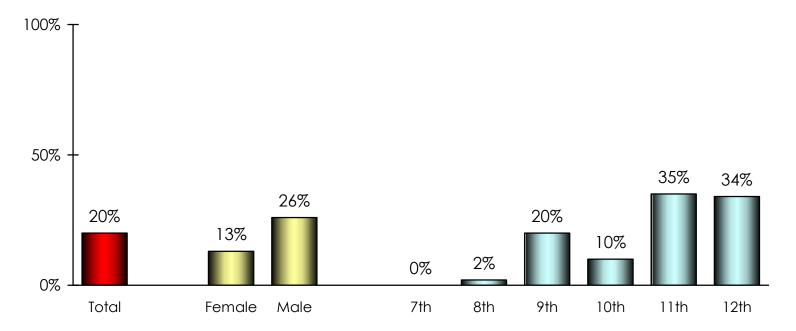
Percentage of students who smoked cigarettes on one or more of the past 30 days.



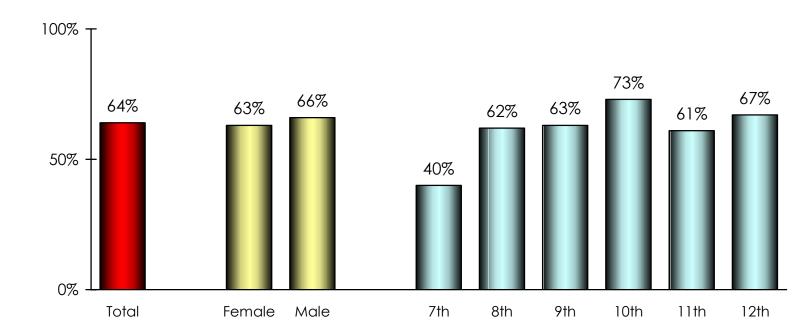
Of the students who smoked during the past 30 days, the percentage who smoked two or more cigarettes per day on the days they smoked.



Of students who smoked during the past 30 days, percentage who usually got their own cigarettes by buying them in a store or gas station during the past 30 days.



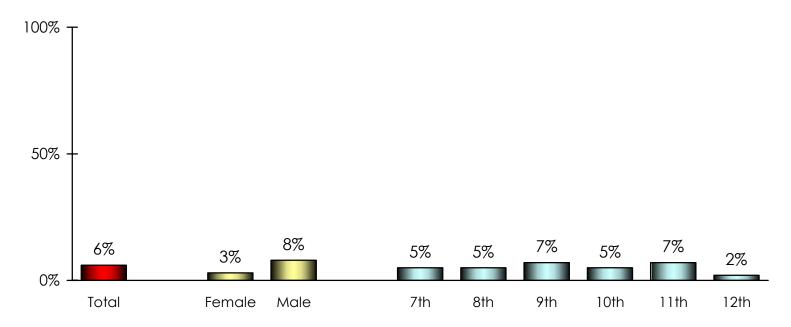
Of the students who have smoked regularly, the percentage who ever tried to quit smoking cigarettes.



■ Tobacco Use – Smokeless Tobacco

This question measures smokeless tobacco use.

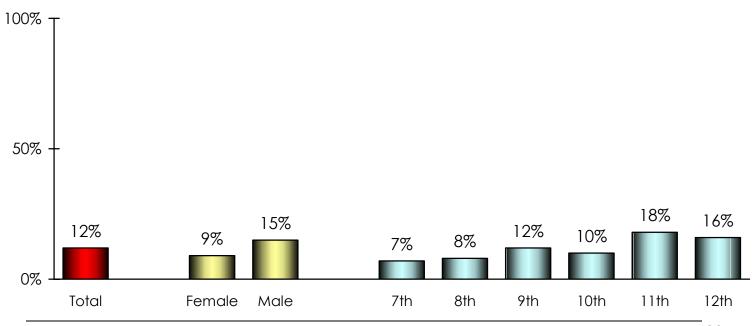
Percentage of students who used chewing tobacco or snuff on one or more of the past 30 days.



■ Tobacco Use - Cigar

This question measures cigar smoking.

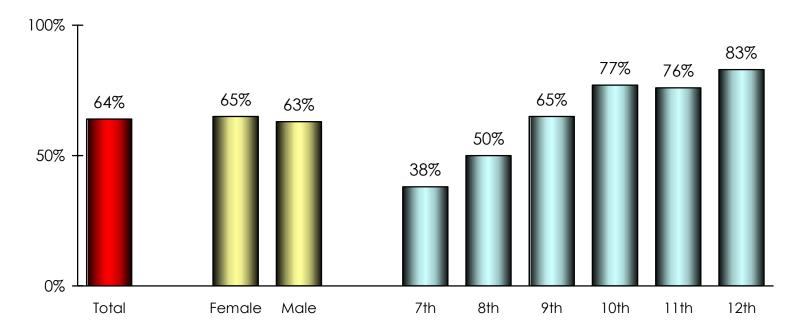
Percentage of students who smoked cigars, cigarillos, or little cigars during the past 30 days.



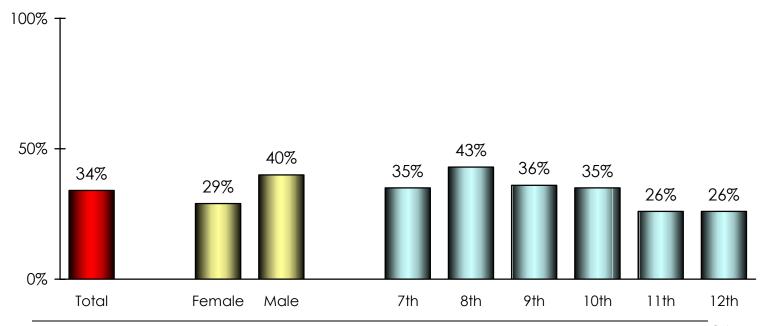
Alcohol Use

These questions measure frequency of alcohol use, age of initiation of drinking, and heavy drinking.

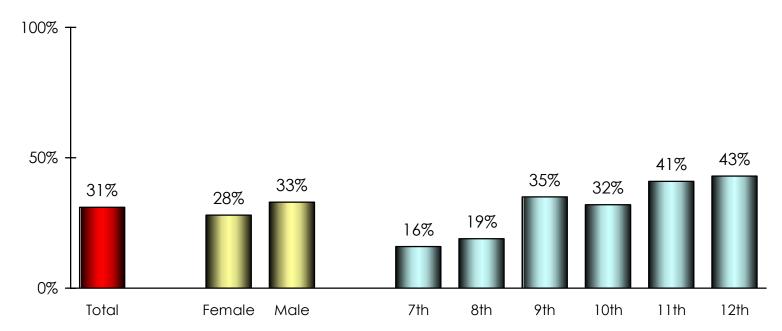
Percentage of students who had at least one drink of alcohol on one or more days during their life.



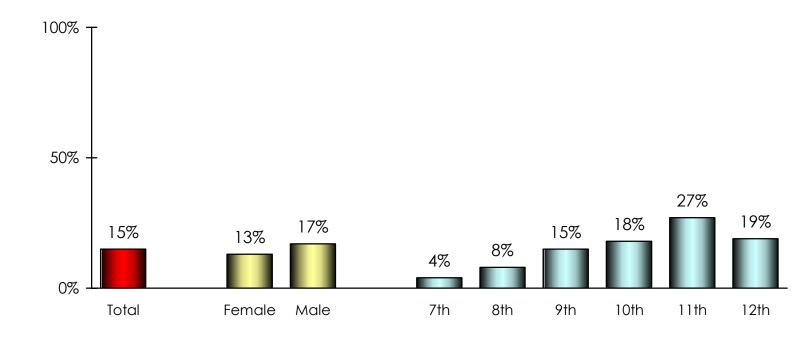
Percentage of students who had their first drink of alcohol other than a few sips before age 13.



Percentage of students who had at least one drink of alcohol on one or more of the past 30 days.



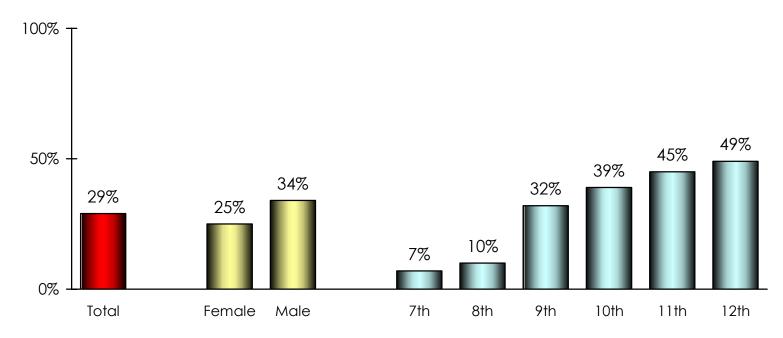
Percentage of students who had five or more drinks of alcohol in a row, that is, within a couple of hours, on one or more of the past 30 days.



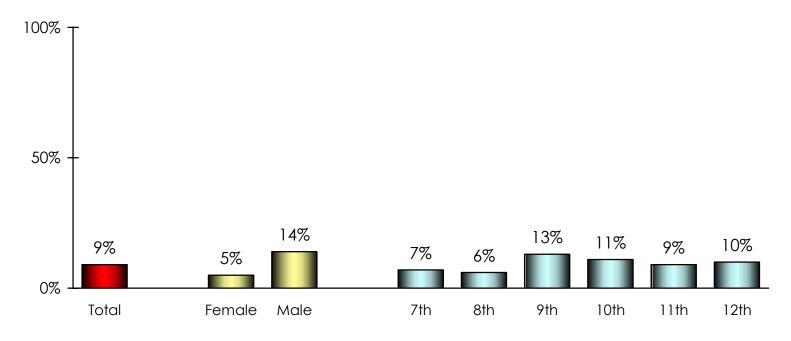
Drug Use

These questions measure the frequency of illegal drug use.

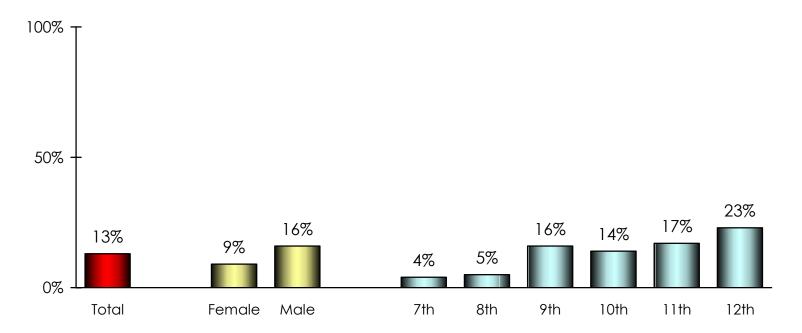
Percentage of students who used marijuana one or more times during their life.



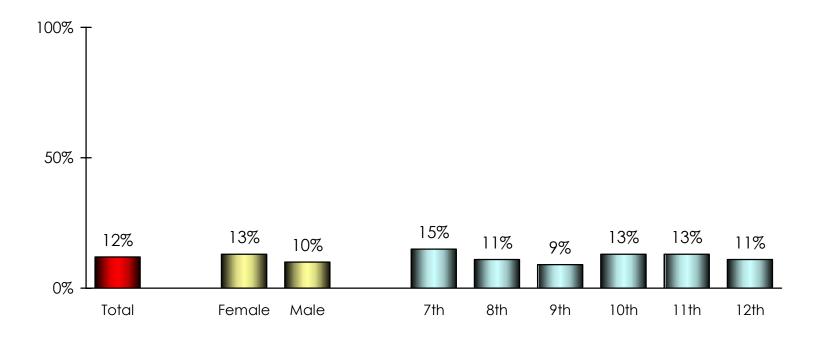
Percentage of students who tried marijuana for the first time before age 13.



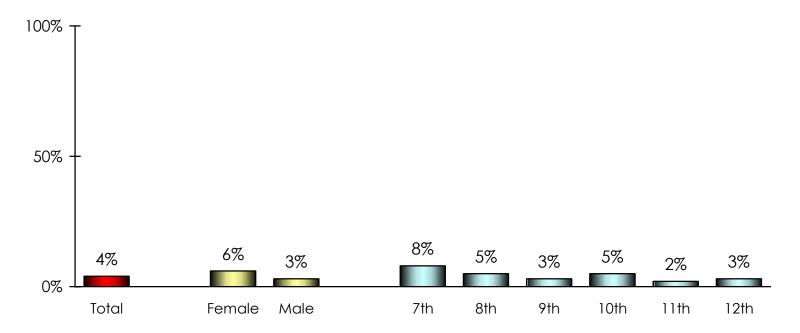
Percentage of students who used marijuana one or more times during the past 30 days.



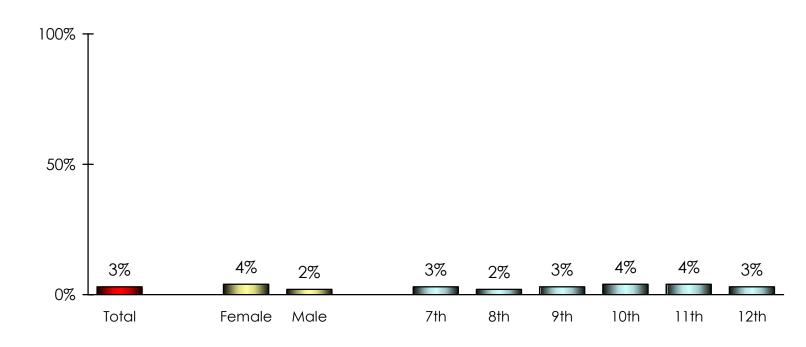
Percentage of students who sniffed glue, breathed the contents of aerosol spray cans or inhaled any paints or sprays to get high during their life.



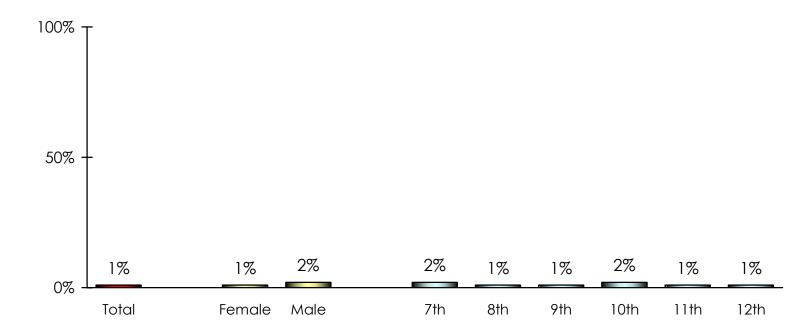
Percentage of students who sniffed glue, breathed the contents of aerosol spray cans or inhaled any paints or sprays to get high during the past 30 days.



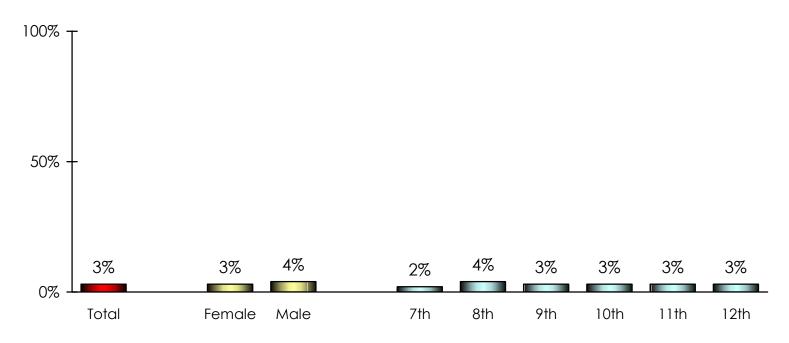
Percentage of students who used methamphetamines one or more times during their life.



Percentage of students who used heroin one or more times during their life.



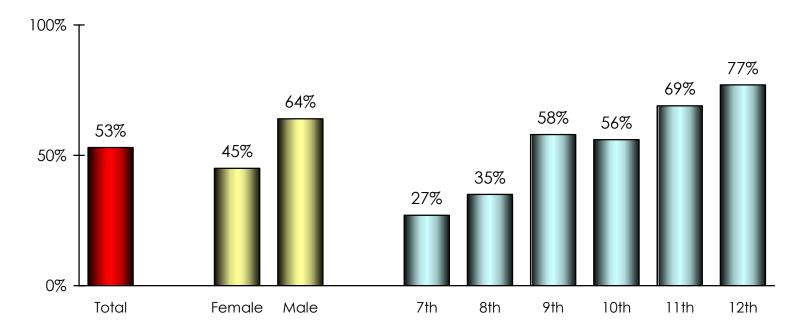
Percentage of students who took steroid pills or shots without a doctor's prescription one or more times during their life.



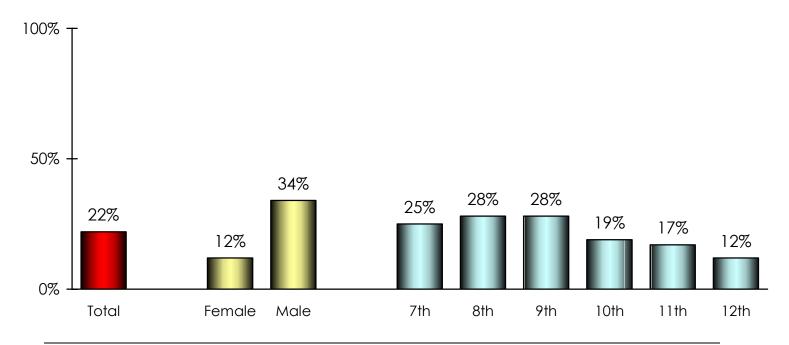
Sexual Activity

These questions measure the prevalence of sexual activity, number of sexual partners, age of first intercourse and alcohol and drug use related to sexual activity.

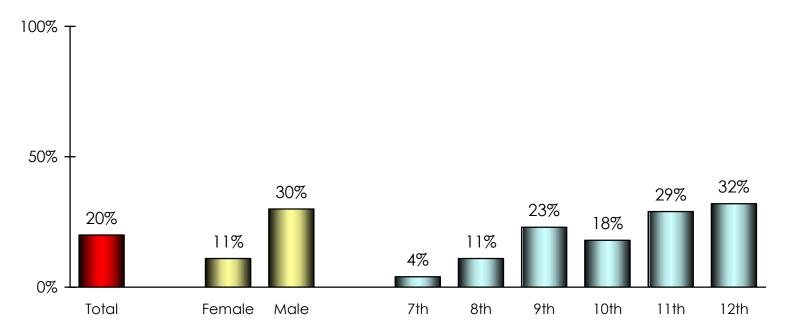
Percentage of students who have had sexual intercourse.



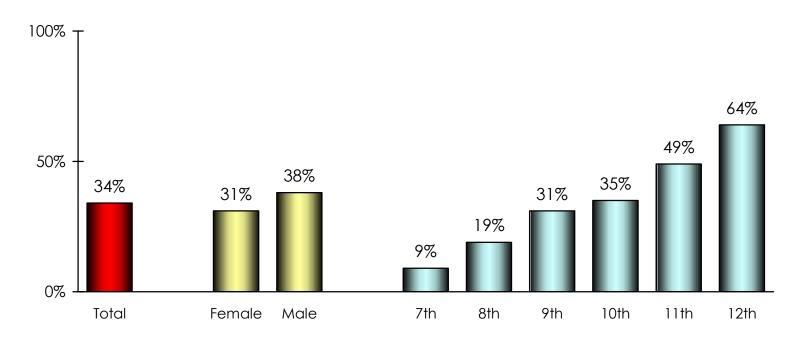
Percentage of students who had sexual intercourse for the first time before age 13.



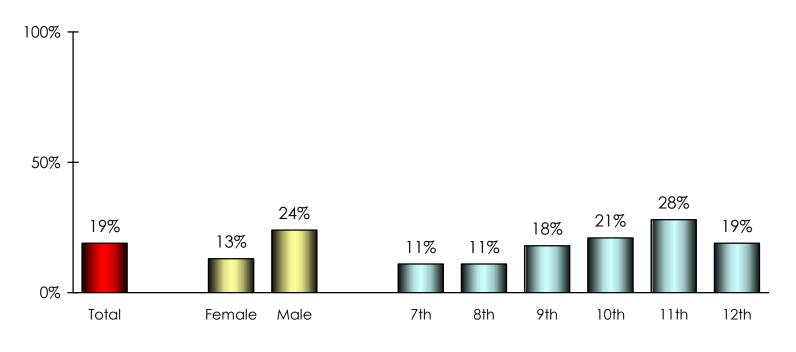
Percentage of students who had sexual intercourse with four or more people during their life.



Percentage of students who had sexual intercourse during the past three months.



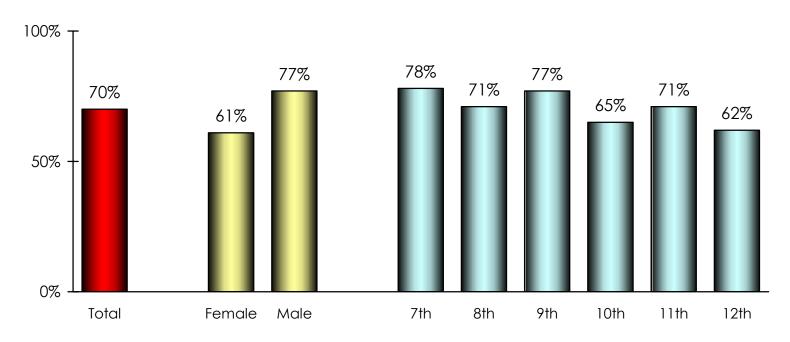
Of those who had sexual intercourse, the percentage who drank alcohol or used drugs before last sexual intercourse.



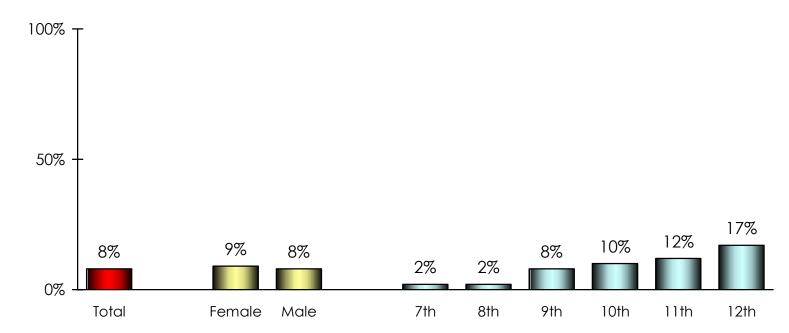
Contraception

These questions measure use of contraception and identify whether a student has been pregnant or gotten someone pregnant.

Of students who had sexual intercourse, the percentage who used a condom during the last sexual intercourse.



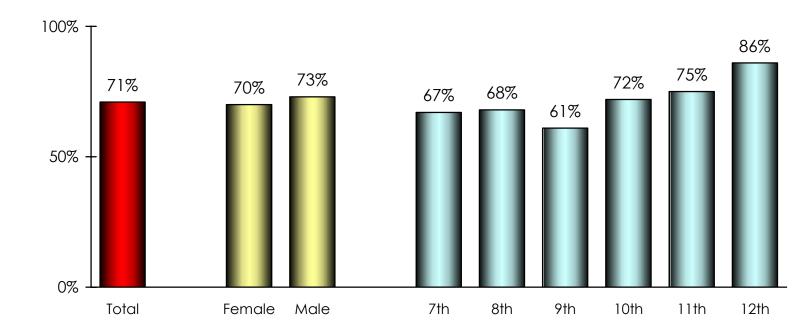
Percentage of students who had been or gotten someone pregnant one or more times.



AIDS, HIV, & STDs

This question measures whether students have received HIV information at school.

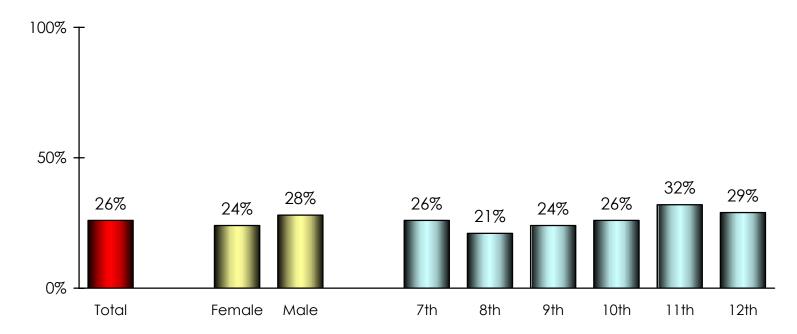
Percentage of students who were ever taught about AIDS or HIV infection in school.



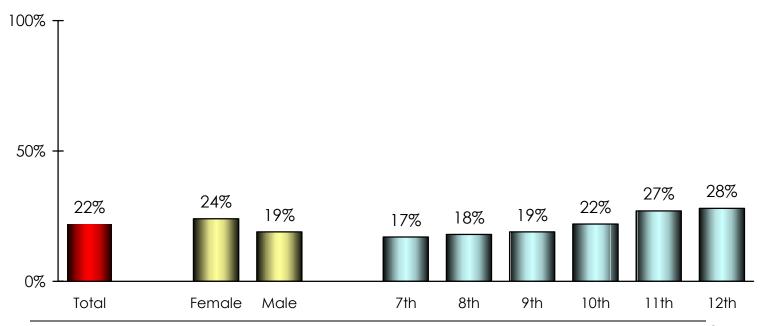
Obesity

These questions measure self-perception of and efforts to modify body weight, including behaviors that may lead to eating disorders and other health problems.

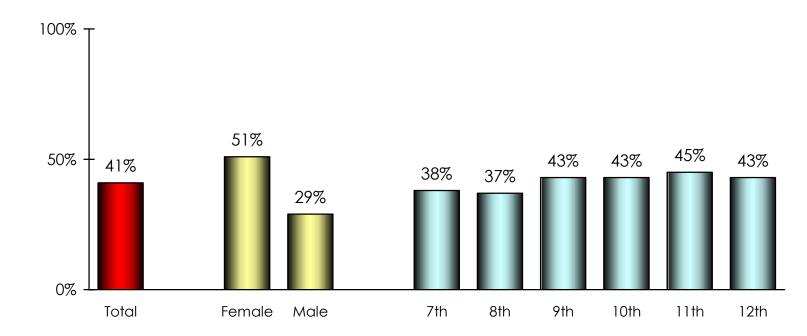
Percentage of students who are overweight, as calculated by Body Mass Index.



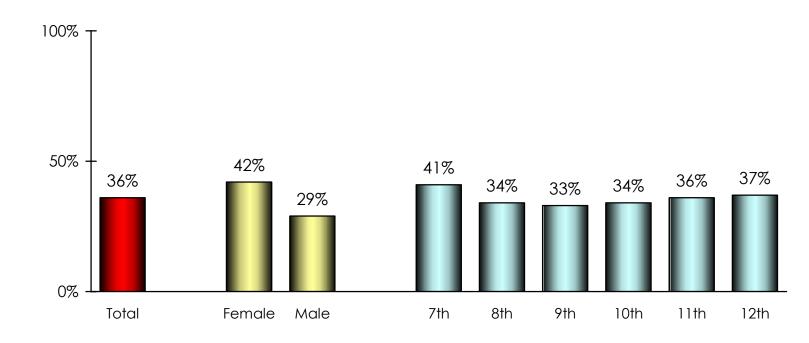
Percentage of students who describe themselves as slightly or very overweight.



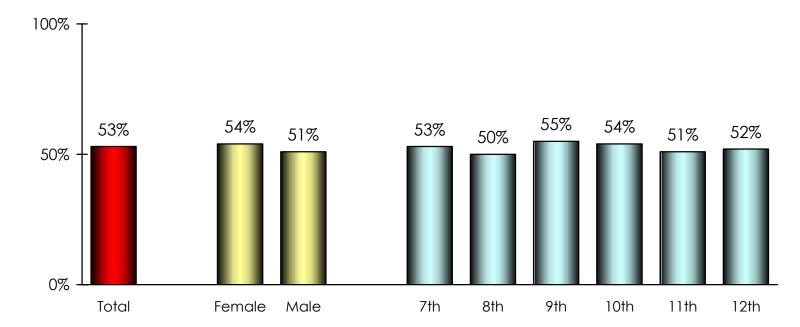
Percentage of students who were trying to lose weight.



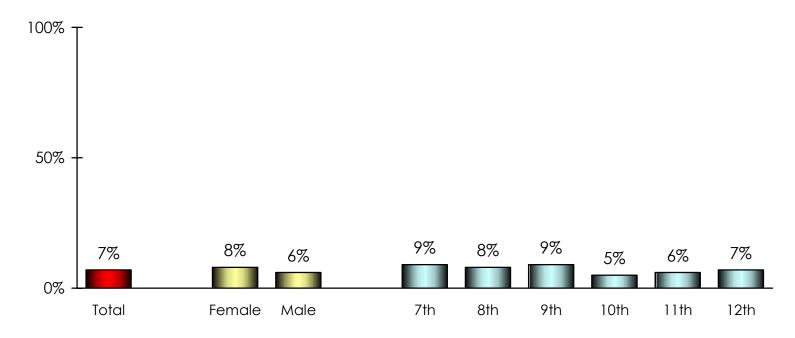
Percentage of students who ate less food, fewer calories, or foods low in fat to lose weight or to keep from gaining weight during the past 30 days.



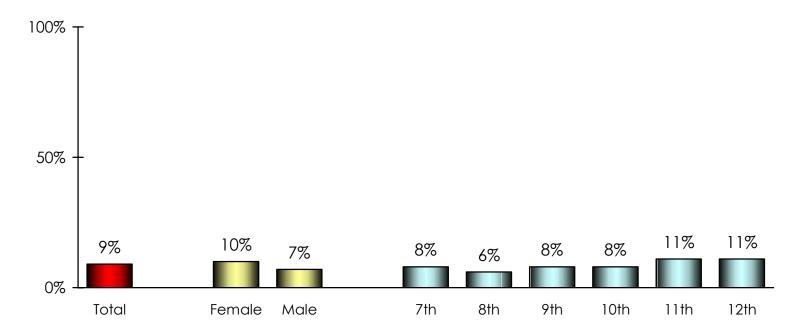
Percentage of students who exercised to lose weight or to keep from gaining weight during the past 30 days.



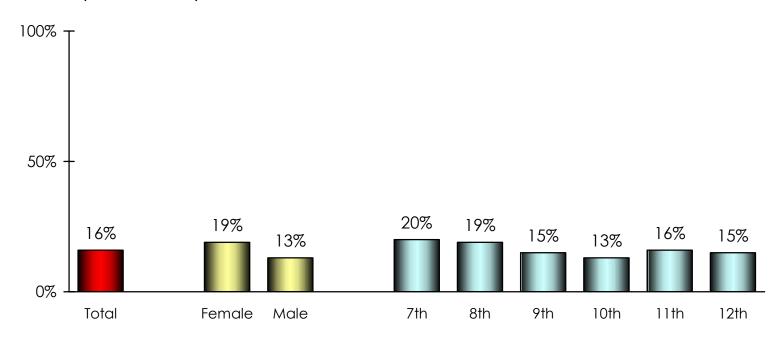
Percentage of students who vomited or took laxatives to lose weight or to keep from gaining weight during the past 30 days.



Percentage of students who took diet pills to lose weight or to keep from gaining weight during the past 30 days.



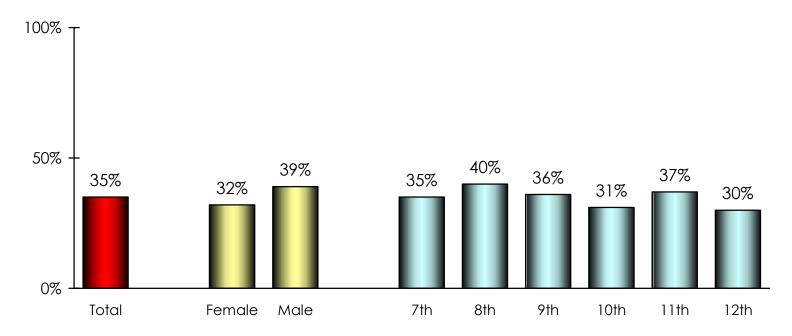
Percentage of students who fasted, or went without eating, for 24 hours or more to lose weight or to keep from gaining weight during the past 30 days.



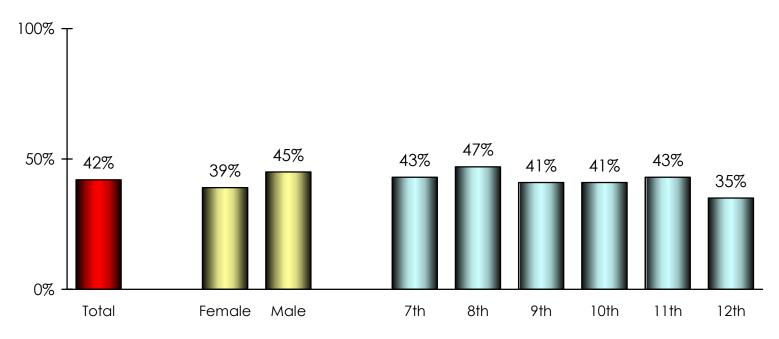
Nutrition

These questions measure food choices.

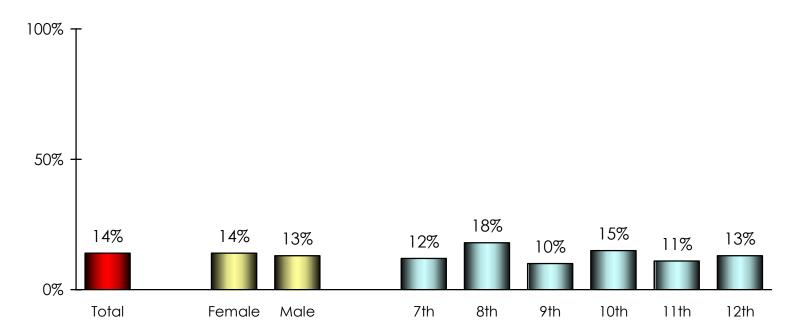
Percentage of students who ate fruit four or more times during the past 7 days.



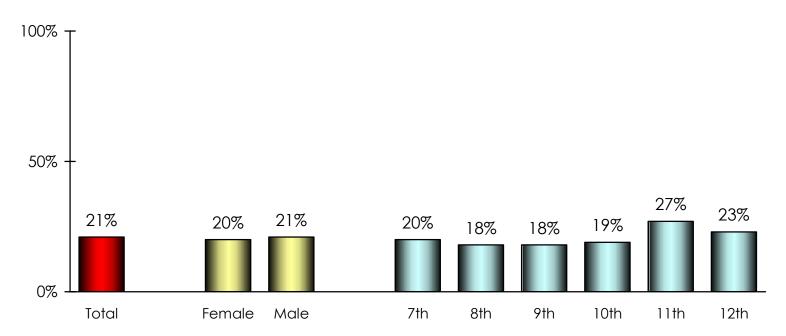
Percentage of students who drank fruit juices four or more times during the past 7 days.



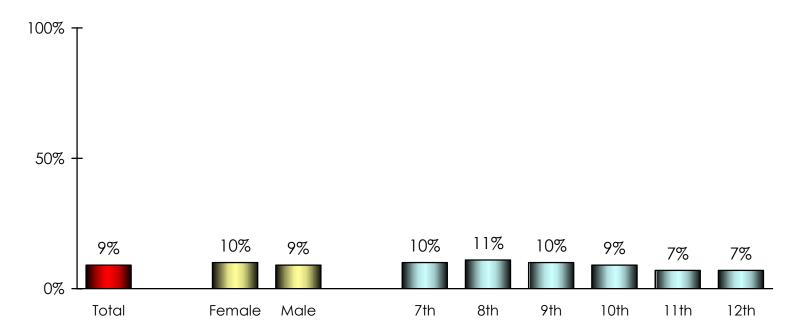
Percentage of students who ate green salad four or more times during the past 30 days.



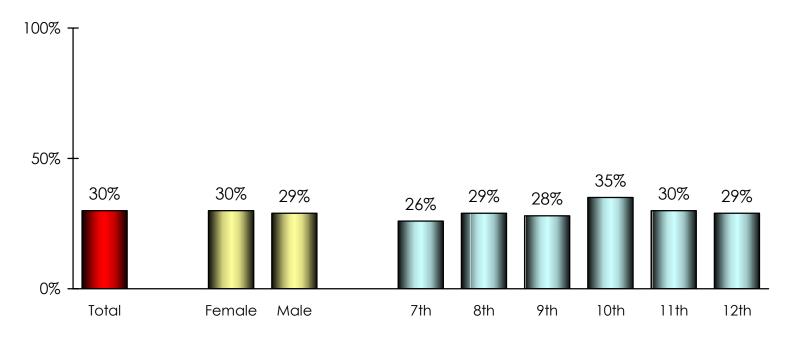
Percentage of students who ate potatoes four or more times during the past 30 days.



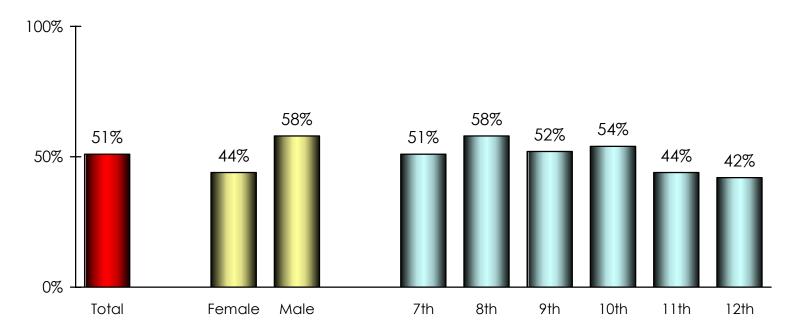
Percentage of students who ate carrots four or more times during the past 7 days.



Percentage of students who ate other vegetables four or more times during the past 7 days.



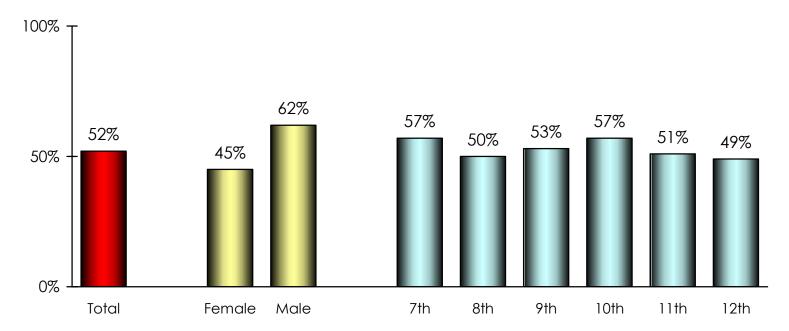
Percentage of students who drank milk four or more times during the past 7 days.



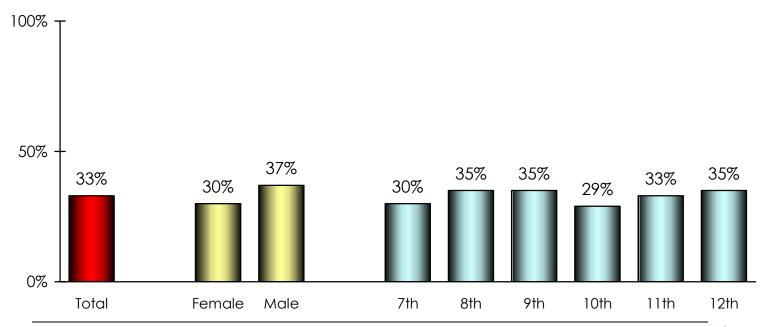
Physical Activity

These questions measure students' physical activity, including team sports, physical education class, and sports injuries.

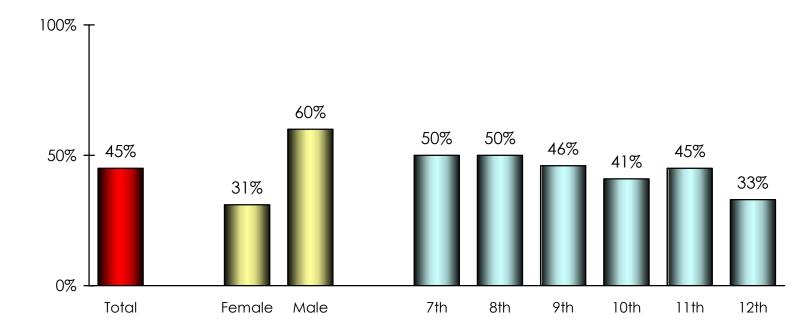
Percentage of students who participated in a physical activity for at least 30 minutes that made them sweat and breathe hard on 3 or more of the past 7 days.



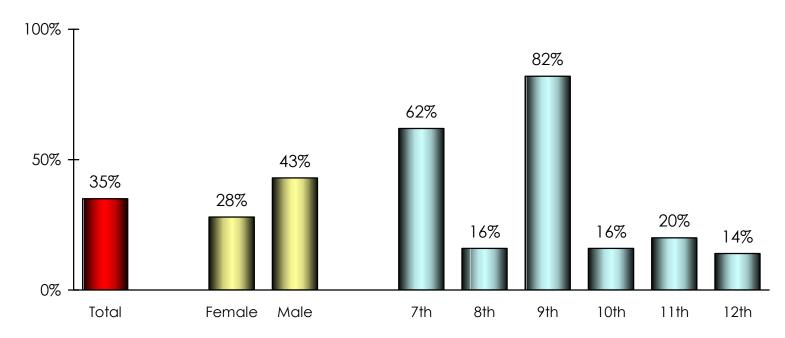
Percentage of students who participated in a physical activity for at least 30 minutes that did not make them sweat or breathe hard 3 or more of the past 7 days.



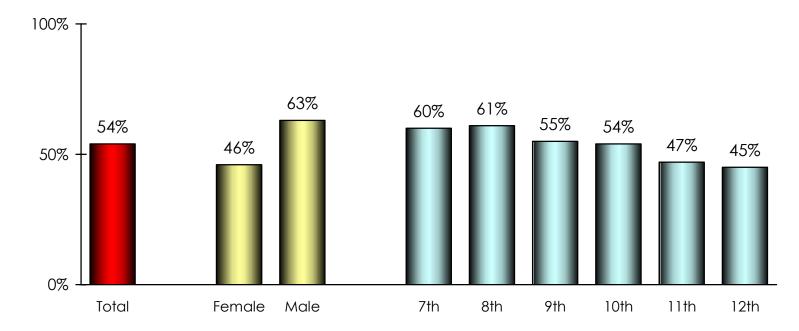
Percentage of students who exercised to strengthen or tone their muscles on three or more of the past seven days.



Percentage of students who attended physical education (PE) class one or more days during an average school week.



Percentage of students who played on one or more sports teams during the past 12 months.

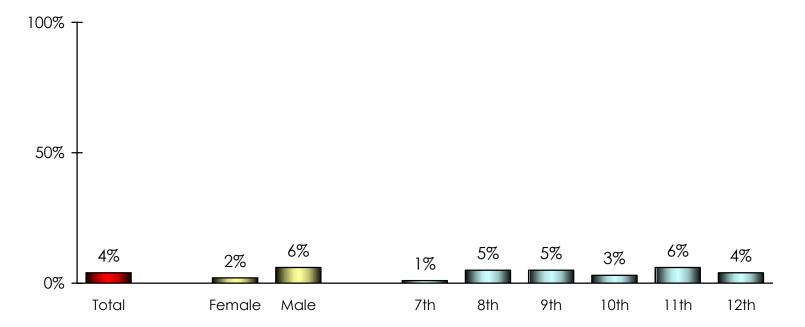


Violence-Related Behaviors at School

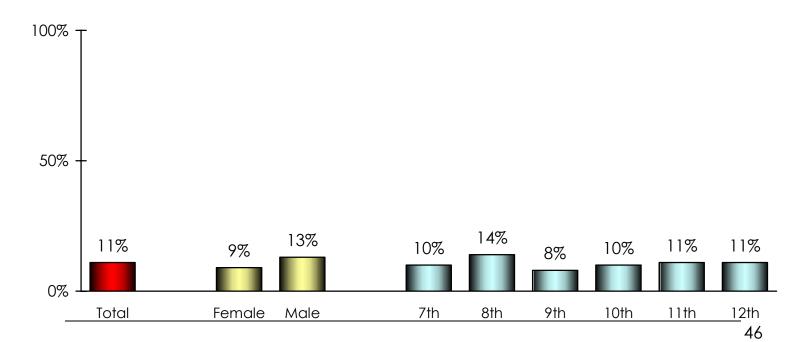
These questions measure violence related behaviors at school.

Percentage of students who carried a weapon* on school property on one or more of the past 30 days.

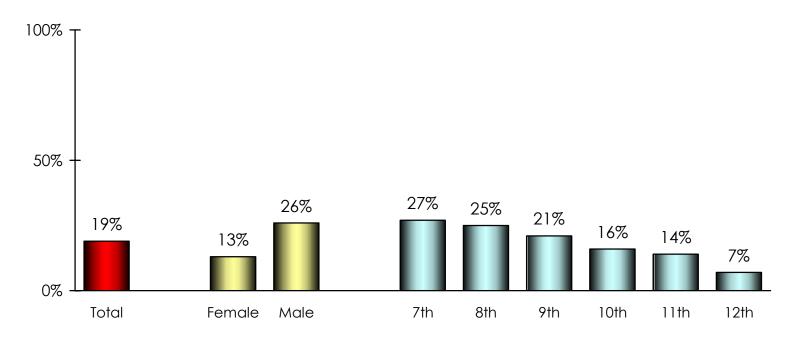
^{*}such as a gun, knife, or club



Percentage of students who had been threatened or injured with a weapon on school property one or more times during the past 12 months.



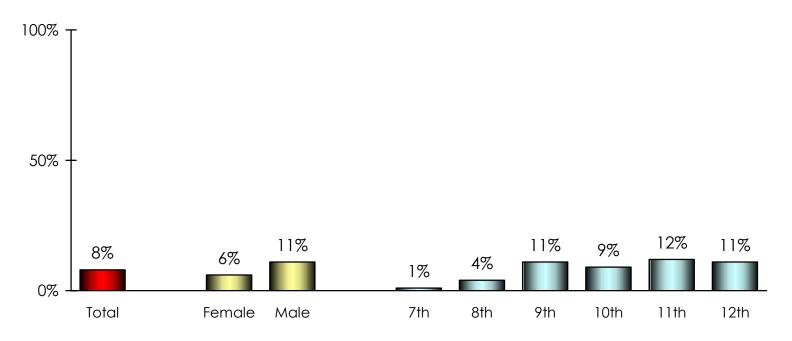
Percentage of students who were in a physical fight on school property one or more times during the past 12 months.



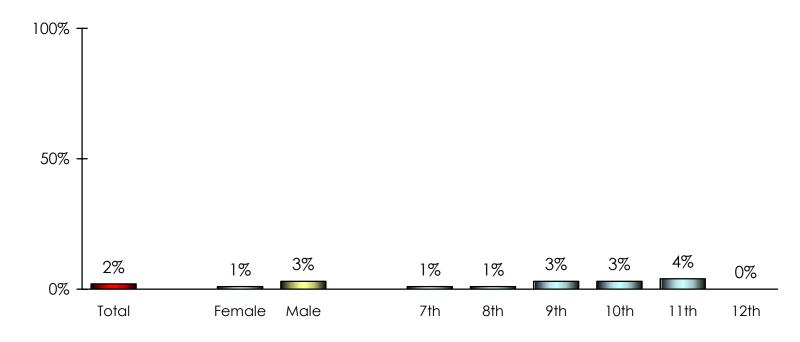
■ Tobacco Use at School

These questions measure tobacco use on school property.

Percentage of students who smoked cigarettes on school property on one or more of the past 30 days.



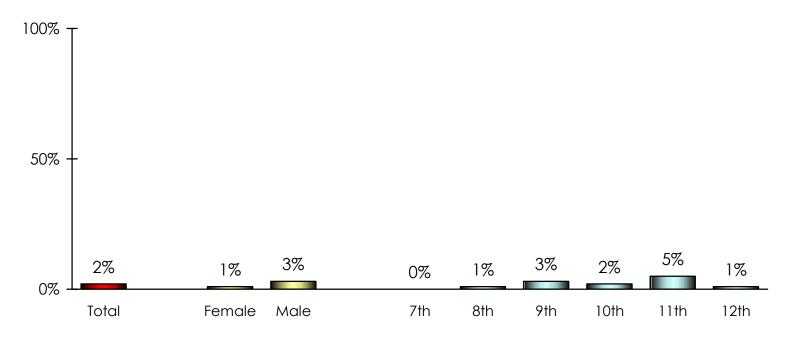
Percentage of students who used chewing tobacco or snuff on school property on one or more of the past 30 days.



Alcohol Use at School

This question measures alcohol use on school property.

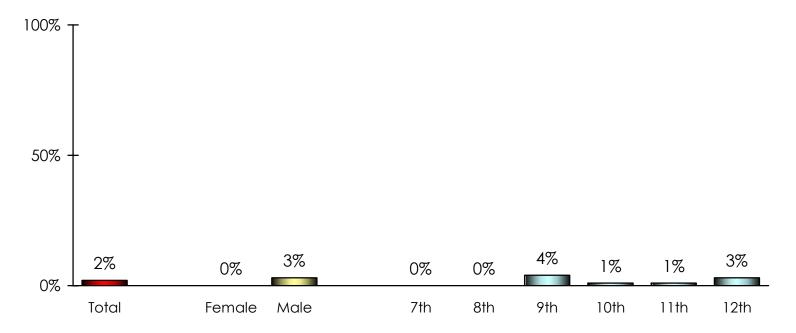
Percentage of students who had at least one drink of alcohol on school property on one or more of the past 30 days.



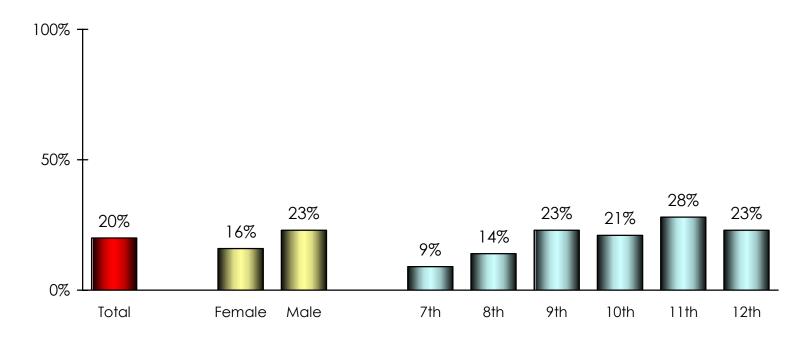
Drug Use at School

These questions measure drug use and availability on school property.

Percentage of students who used marijuana on school property on one or more of the past 30 days.



Percentage of students who had someone offer, sell, or give them an illegal drug on school property during the past 12 months.



ST. FRANCIS COUNTY 2001-2002 YRBS RESULTS

1. How old are you?		
	Number of Students	Percent of Total
12 OR YOUNGER	129	9.89
13	245	18.77
14	189	14.48
15	267	20.46
16	208	15.94
17	216	16.55
18 OR OLDER	51	3.91

Frequency Missing = 4

2. What is your sex?		
Number of Students Percent of Total		Percent of Total
FEMALE	688	52.88
MALE	613	47.12

Frequency Missing = 8

3. In what grade are you?		
	Number of Students	Percent of Total
7TH	211	16.26
8TH	251	19.34
9TH	238	18.34
10TH	198	15.25
11TH	207	15.95
12TH	193	14.87

Frequency Missing = 11

7. When you rode a motorcycle during the past 12 months, how often did you wear a helmet?		
Number of Students Percent of Total		
DID NOT RIDE	943	72.87
NEVER WORE 161 12.4		12.44
RARELY WORE 25 1.9		1.93
SOMETIMES WORE		3.25
WORE MOST OF THE TIME 38 2.		2.94
ALWAYS WORE 85 6.57		

Frequency Missing = 15

8. When you rode a bicycle during the past 12 months, how often did you wear a helmet?		
Number of Students Percent of Total		
DID NOT RIDE	383	29.37
NEVER WORE	826	63.34
RARELY WORE	24	1.84
SOMETIMES WORE	29	2.22
WORE MOST OF THE TIME	14	1.07
ALWAYS WORE	28	2.15

Frequency Missing = 5

9. How often do you wear a seat belt when riding in a car driven by someone else?		
Number of Students Percent of Total		Percent of Total
NEVER	82	6.30
RARELY	170	13.06
SOMETIMES	346	26.57
MOST OF THE TIME	383	29.42
ALWAYS	321	24.65

Frequency Missing = 7

10. During the past 30 days, how many times did you ride in a car or other vehicle driven by someone who had been drinking alcohol?

	Number of Students	Percent of Total
0 TIMES	896	68.71
1 TIME	126	9.66
2-3 TIMES	160	12.27
4-5 TIMES	28	2.15
6+ TIMES	94	7.21

Frequency Missing = 5

11. During the past 30 days, how many times did you drive a car or other vehicle when you had been drinking alcohol?

	Number of Students	Percent of Total
0 TIMES	1159	90.55
1 TIME	50	3.91
2-3 TIMES	45	3.52
4-5 TIMES	6	0.47
6+ TIMES	20	1.56

12. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you carry a weapon such as a gun, knife, or club?

	Number of Students	Percent of Total
0 TIMES	1059	83.52
1 TIME	55	4.34
2-3 TIMES	41	3.23
4-5 TIMES	19	1.50
6+ TIMES	94	7.41

Frequency Missing = 41

13. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you carry a gun?

<u> </u>		
	Number of Students	Percent of Total
0 TIMES	1183	92.06
1 TIME	26	2.02
2-3 TIMES	34	2.65
4-5 TIMES	8	0.62
6+ TIMES	34	2.65

14. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you carry a weapon such as a gun, knife, or club on school property?

	Number of Students	Percent of Total
0 TIMES	1241	96.05
1 TIME	23	1.78
2-3 TIMES	11	0.85
4-5 TIMES	1	0.08
6+ TIMES	16	1.24

Frequency Missing = 17

15. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you not go to school because you felt you would be unsafe at school or on your way to or from school?

	Number of Students	Percent of Total
0 TIMES	1139	88.50
1 TIME	73	5.67
2-3 TIMES	41	3.19
4-5 TIMES	9	0.70
6+ TIMES	25	1.94

16. During the past 12 months, how many times has someone threatened or injured you with a weapon such as a gun, knife, or club on school property?

	Number of Students	Percent of Total
0 TIMES	1166	89.21
1 TIME	66	5.05
2-3 TIMES	34	2.60
4-5 TIMES	11	0.84
6-7 TIMES	2	0.15
8-9 TIMES	6	0.46
10-11 TIMES	2	0.15
12+ TIMES	20	1.53

17. During the past 12 months,
how many times were you in a physical
fight?

	Number of Students	Percent of Total
0 TIMES	771	61.63
1 TIME	214	17.11
2-3 TIMES	151	12.07
4-5 TIMES	55	4.40
6-7 TIMES	23	1.84
8-9 TIMES	7	0.56
10-11 TIMES	4	0.32
12+ TIMES	26	2.08

Frequency Missing = 58

18. During the past 12 months, how many times were you in a physical fight in which you were injured and had to be treated by a doctor

or nurse?

Number of Students Percent of Total **O TIMES** 1177 95.15 1 TIME 43 3.48 2-3 TIMES 13 1.05 3 4-5 TIMES 0.24 6+ TIMES 80.0

19. During the past 12 months, how many times were you in a physical fight on school property?			
	Number of Students Percent of Tota		
0 TIMES	1061	81.18	
1 TIME	158	12.09	
2-3 TIMES	61	4.67	
4-5 TIMES	10	0.77	
6-7 TIMES	4	0.31	
8-9 TIMES	6	0.46	
10-11 TIMES	1	0.08	
12+ TIMES	6	0.46	

Frequency Missing = 2

	20. During the past 12 months, did your boyfriend or girlfriend ever hit, slap, or physically hurt you on purpose?		
	Number of Students Percent of Total		
YES	YES 151 11.59		
NO	1152	88.41	

Frequency Missing = 6

21. Have you ever been forced to have sexual intercourse when you did not want to?

| Number of Students | Percent of Total |
| YES | 132 | 10.12 |
| NO | 1172 | 89.88

Frequency Missing = 5

22. During the past 12 months, did you ever feel sad of hopeless almost every day for two weeks or more in a row that you stopped doing some usual activities? Percent of Total Number of Students YES 396 30.30 69.70 NO 911

Frequency Missing = 2

23. During the past 12
months, did you ever seriously
consider attempting suicide?

Number of Students Percent of Total

YES 167 13.47

NO 1073 86.53

24. During the past 12
months, did you make a
plan about how you would
attempt suicide?

Number of Students Percent of Total
YES 141 10.85
NO 1159 89.15

Frequency Missing = 9

25. During the past 12 months, how many times did you actually attempt suicide? Number of Students Percent of Total **O TIMES** 92.36 858 1 TIME 42 4.52 2-3 TIMES 19 2.05 4-5 TIMES 6 0.65 6+ TIMES 4 0.43

26. If you attempted suicide during the past 12 months, did any attempt result in an injury, poisoning, or overdose that had to be treated by a doctor or nurse?

	Number of Students	Percent of Total
N/A	854	89.80
YES	31	3.26
NO	66	6.94

Frequency Missing = 358

27. Have you ever tried cigarette smoking, even one or two puffs?			
	Number of Students Percent of Total		
YES 833 67.78			
NO	396	32.22	

28. How old were you when you smoked a whole cigarette for the first time?		
Number of Students Percent of Total		
NEVER TRIED	641	53.42
8 OR YOUNGER	65	5.42
AGE 9-10	76	6.33
AGE 11-12	154	12.83
AGE 13-14	176	14.67
AGE 15-16	74	6.17
17 OR OLDER	14	1.17

Frequency Missing = 109

29. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you smoke cigarettes?		
	Number of Students Percent of Tot	
0 DAYS	917	76.87
1-2 DAYS	77	6.45
3-5 DAYS	43	3.60
6-9 DAYS	23	1.93
10-19 DAYS	21	1.76
20-29 DAYS	21	1.76
ALL 30 DAYS	91	7.63

30. During the past 30 days, on the days you smoked, how many cigarettes did you smoke per day? Number of Students Percent of Total 906 NONE IPM 76.78 LT 1 PER DAY 76 6.44 1/DAY 49 4.15 91 2-5/DAY 7.71 6-10/DAY 36 3.05 15 11-20/DAY 1.27 21+ /DAY 7 0.59

Frequency Missing = 129

31. During the past 30 days, how did you usually get your own cigarettes?		
Number of Students Percent of To		
NONE IPM	912	76.64
STORE BOUGHT	55	4.62
MACHINE BOUGHT	3	0.25
SOMEONE ELSE BOUGHT	71	5.97
BORROWED THEM	61	5.13
PERSON 18 OR OLDER GAVE THEM	40	3.36
TOOK FROM A STORE OR FAMILY MEMBER	15	1.26
SOME OTHER WAY	33	2.77

32. When you bought cigarettes in a store during the past 30 days, were you ever asked to show proof of age? Number of Students Percent of Total N/A 1138 88.63 4.67 YES 60 NO 86 6.70

Frequency Missing = 25

33. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you smoke cigarettes on school property? Number of Students Percent of Total 0 DAYS 1166 92.03 1-2 DAYS 36 2.84 **3-5 DAYS** 10 0.79 6-9 DAYS 4 0.32 10-19 DAYS 15 1.18 20-29 DAYS 11 0.87 1.97 ALL 30 DAYS 25

34. Have you ever smoked cigarettes regularly, that is, at least one cigarette every day for 30 days?

Number of Students Percent of Total
YES 155 12.40
NO 1095 87.60

Frequency Missing = 59

35. Have you ever tried to quit smoking cigarettes?		
Number of Students Percent of Total		
N/A	930	74.58
YES	201	16.12
NO	116	9.30

36. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you use chewing tobacco or snuff, such as Redman, Levi Garrett, Beechnut, Skoal, Skoal Bandits, or Copenhagen?

	Number of Students	Percent of Total
0 DAYS	1215	94.48
1-2 DAYS	33	2.57
3-5 DAYS	9	0.70
6-9 DAYS	7	0.54
10-19 DAYS	4	0.31
20-29 DAYS	1	0.08
ALL 30 DAYS	17	1.32

Frequency Missing = 23

37. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you use chewing tobacco or snuff on school property?

	Number of Students	Percent of Total
0 DAYS	1262	97.83
1-2 DAYS	16	1.24
3-5 DAYS	4	0.31
10-19 DAYS	3	0.23
ALL 30 DAYS	5	0.39

38. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you smoke cigars, cigarillos, or little cigars?

	Number of Students	Percent of Total
0 DAYS	1143	88.13
1-2 DAYS	88	6.78
3-5 DAYS	31	2.39
6-9 DAYS	12	0.93
10-19 DAYS	8	0.62
20-29 DAYS	4	0.31
ALL 30 DAYS	11	0.85

Frequency Missing = 12

39. During your life, on how
many days have you had at least
one drink of alcohol?

3.110 S.111 II. 3.1 S.113 S.11		
	Number of Students	Percent of Total
0 DAYS	404	35.75
1-2 DAYS	216	19.12
3-9 DAYS	193	17.08
10-19 DAYS	105	9.29
20-39 DAYS	71	6.28
40-99 DAYS	50	4.42
100+ DAYS	91	8.05

40. How old were you when you had your first drink of alcohol other than a few sips?		
	Number of Students	Percent of Total
NEVER TRIED	397	34.95
8 OR YOUNGER	103	9.07
AGE 9-10	120	10.56
AGE 11-12	165	14.52
AGE 13-14	215	18.93
AGE 15-16	121	10.65
17 OR OLDER	15	1.32

Frequency Missing = 173

41. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you have at least one drink of alcohol?		
	Number of Students	Percent of Total
0 DAYS	838	69.31
1-2 DAYS	203	16.79
3-5 DAYS	79	6.53
6-9 DAYS	42	3.47
10-19 DAYS	31	2.56
20-29 DAYS	11	0.91
ALL 30 DAYS	5	0.41

42. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you have 5 or more drinks of alcohol in a row, that is, within a couple of hours?

	Number of Students	Percent of Total
0 DAYS	1069	84.98
1 DAY	70	5.56
2 DAYS	41	3.26
3-5 DAYS	39	3.10
6-9 DAYS	21	1.67
10-19 DAYS	14	1.11
20+ DAYS	4	0.32

Frequency Missing = 51

43. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you have at least one drink of alcohol on school property?

	Number of Students	Percent of Total
0 DAYS	1256	97.90
1-2 DAYS	19	1.48
3-5 DAYS	4	0.31
6-9 DAYS	4	0.31

44. During you life, how many times have you used marijuana?		
	Number of Students	Percent of Total
0 TIMES	885	70.86
1-2 TIMES	119	9.53
3-9 TIMES	83	6.65
10-19 TIMES	33	2.64
20-39 TIMES	29	2.32
40-99 TIMES	25	2.00
100+ TIMES	75	6.00

Frequency Missing = 60

45. How old were you when you tried marijuana for the first time?		
	Number of Students	Percent of Total
NEVER TRIED	888	70.20
8 OR YOUNGER	11	0.87
AGE 9-10	35	2.77
AGE 11-12	68	5.38
AGE 13-14	146	11.54
AGE 15-16	94	7.43
17 OR OLDER	23	1.82

Frequency Missing = 44

46. During the past 30 days, how many times did you use marijuana?		
	Number of Students	Percent of Total
0 TIMES	1109	87.32
1-2 TIMES	55	4.33
3-9 TIMES	38	2.99
10-19 TIMES	22	1.73
20-39 TIMES	18	1.42
40+ TIMES	28	2.20

Frequency Missing = 39

47. During the past 30 days, how many times did you use marijuana on school property?		
	Number of Students	Percent of Total
0 TIMES	1263	98.29
1-2 TIMES	13	1.01
3-9 TIMES	3	0.23
10-19 TIMES	4	0.31
20-39 TIMES	1	0.08
40+ TIMES	1	0.08

Frequency Missing = 24

48. During your life, how many times have you used any form of cocaine, including powder, crack, or freebase?

	Number of Students	Percent of Total
O TIMES	1239	97.56
1-2 TIMES	13	1.02
3-9 TIMES	7	0.55
10-19 TIMES	3	0.24
20-39 TIMES	5	0.39
40+ TIMES	3	0.24

Frequency Missing = 39

49. During the past 39 days, how many times did you use any form of cocaine, including powder, crack, or freebase?

	Number of Students	Percent of Total
O TIMES	1273	98.68
1-2 TIMES	9	0.70
3-9 TIMES	4	0.31
10-19 TIMES	1	0.08
40+ TIMES	3	0.23

50. During your life, how many times have you sniffed glue, breathed the contents of aerosol spray cans, or inhaled any paints or sprays to get high?

	Number of Students	Percent of Total
0 TIMES	1119	88.18
1-2 TIMES	82	6.46
3-9 TIMES	39	3.07
10-19 TIMES	12	0.95
20-39 TIMES	3	0.24
40+ TIMES	14	1.10

Frequency Missing = 40

51. During the past 30 days, how many times have you sniffed glue, breathed the contents of aerosol spray cans, or inhaled any paints or sprays to get high?

	Number of Students	Percent of Total
0 TIMES	1220	95.76
1-2 TIMES	33	2.59
3-9 TIMES	12	0.94
10-19 TIMES	5	0.39
20-39 TIMES	1	0.08
40+ TIMES	3	0.24

52. During your life, how many times have you used heroin (also called smack, junk or china white)?

	Number of Students	Percent of Total
0 TIMES	1261	98.67
1-2 TIMES	9	0.70
3-9 TIMES	2	0.16
10-19 TIMES	2	0.16
20-39 TIMES	2	0.16
40+ TIMES	2	0.16

Frequency Missing = 31

53. During your life, how many times have you used methamphetamines (also called speed, crystal, crank or ice)?

	Number of Students	Percent of Total
O TIMES	1240	96.95
1-2 TIMES	19	1.49
3-9 TIMES	9	0.70
10-19 TIMES	2	0.16
20-39 TIMES	5	0.39
40+ TIMES	4	0.31

54. During your life, how many times have you taken steroid pills or shots without a doctor's prescription?

	Number of Students	Percent of Total
0 TIMES	1244	96.96
1-2 TIMES	19	1.48
3-9 TIMES	8	0.62
10-19 TIMES	5	0.39
20-39 TIMES	4	0.31
40+ TIMES	3	0.23

Frequency Missing = 26

55. During your life, how many times have you used a needle to inject any illegal drug into your body?

	Number of Students	Percent of Total
0 TIMES	1279	99.38
1 TIME	4	0.31
2+ TIMES	4	0.31

56. During the past 12
months, has anyone offered, sold
or given you an illegal
drug on school property?

Number of Students Percent of Total

YES 252 19.58

NO 1035 80.42

Frequency Missing = 22

57. Have you ever had sexual intercourse?		
Number of Students Percent of Total		Percent of Total
YES	609	53.42
NO	531	46.58

58. How old were you when you had sexual intercourse for the first time?		
	Number of Students	Percent of Total
NEVER	532	46.75
AGE 11 OR YOUNGER	138	12.13
AGE 12	112	9.84
AGE 13	109	9.58
AGE 14	89	7.82
AGE 15	91	8.00
AGE 16	51	4.48
AGE 17+	16	1.41

Frequency Missing = 171

59. During your life, with how many people have you had sexual intercourse?		
	Number of Students	Percent of Total
NONE	531	46.91
1 PERSON	183	16.17
2 PEOPLE	111	9.81
3 PEOPLE	85	7.51
4 PEOPLE	54	4.77
5 PEOPLE	33	2.92
6 OR MORE PEOPLE	135	11.93

60. During the past 3 months, with how many people did you have sexual intercourse?		
	Number of Students	Percent of Total
NONE AT ALL	531	46.83
NONE IN PAST 3 MONTHS	215	18.96
1 PERSON	257	22.66
2 PEOPLE	54	4.76
3 PEOPLE	26	2.29
4 PEOPLE	19	1.68
5 PEOPLE	8	0.71
6 OR MORE PEOPLE	24	2.12

Frequency Missing = 175

61. Did you drink alcohol or use drugs before you had sexual intercourse the last time?		
Number of Students Percent of Tota		
N/A	531	46.70
YES	117	10.29
NO	489	43.01

Frequency Missing = 172

62. The last time you had sexual intercourse, did you or your partner use condom?		
	Number of Students	Percent of Total
N/A	531	47.07
YES	416	36.88
NO	181	16.05

Frequency Missing = 181

63. The last time you had sexual intercourse, what one method did you or your partner use to prevent pregnancy?		
Number of Students Percent of To		
NEVER HAD SEX	531	47.07
NO BIRTH CONTROL USED	117	10.37
BIRTH CONTROL PILLS	38	3.37
CONDOMS	357	31.65
DEPO-PROVERA	22	1.95
WITHDRAWAL	30	2.66
OTHER	7	0.62
NOT SURE	26	2.30

64. How many times have you been pregnant or gotten someone pregnant?			
Number of Students Percent of Total			
0 TIMES	1149	91.70	
1 TIME	70	5.59	
2+ TIMES	17	1.36	
NOT SURE	17	1.36	

Frequency Missing = 56

65. How do you describe your weight?		
	Number of Students	Percent of Total
VERY UNDERWEIGHT	60	4.69
SLIGHTLY UNDERWEIGHT	144	11.27
ABOUT THE RIGHT WEIGHT	797	62.36
SLIGHTLY OVERWEIGHT	244	19.09
VERY OVERWEIGHT	33	2.58

Frequency Missing = 31

66. Which of the following are you trying to do about your weight?		
	Number of Students	Percent of Total
LOSE WEIGHT	523	41.15
GAIN WEIGHT	264	20.77
STAY THE SAME WEIGHT	297	23.37
NOT TRYING TO DO ANYTHING	187	14.71

Frequency Missing = 38

67. During the past 30 days, did you exercise to lose weight or to keep from gaining weight?		
	Number of Students	Percent of Total
YES	667	52.73
NO	598	47.27

Frequency Missing = 44

	68. During the past 30 days, did you eat less food, fewer calories, or foods low in fat to lose weight or to keep from gaining weight?		
	Number of Students	Percent of Total	
YES	454	35.89	
NO	811	64.11	

69. During the past 30 days, did you go without eating for 24 hours or more (also called fasting) to lose weight or to keep from gaining weight?

	Number of Students	Percent of Total
YES	204	16.22
NO	1054	83.78

Frequency Missing = 51

70. During the past 30 days, did you take any diet pills, powders, or liquids without a doctor's advice to lose weight or to keep from gaining weight?

	Number of Students	Percent of Total
YES	107	8.52
NO	1149	91.48

71. During the past 30
days, did you vomit or
take laxatives to lose
weight or to keep from
gaining weight?

Number of Students Percent of Total
YES 93 7.49
NO 1148 92.51

Frequency Missing = 68

72. During the past 7 days, how many times did you drink 100% fruit juices such as orange juice, apple juice, or grape juice?

	Number of Students	Percent of Total
NONE	344	27.39
1-3 TIMES	384	30.57
4-6 TIMES	187	14.89
ONCE PER DAY	82	6.53
TWICE PER DAY	81	6.45
3 TIMES PER DAY	45	3.58
4+ TIMES PER DAY	133	10.59

73. During the past 7 days, how many times did you eat fruit?			
	Number of Students	Percent of Total	
NONE	359	28.42	
1-3 TIMES	458	36.26	
4-6 TIMES	170	13.46	
ONCE PER DAY	102	8.08	
TWICE PER DAY	76	6.02	
3 TIMES PER DAY	26	2.06	
4+ TIMES PER DAY	72	5.70	

Frequency Missing = 46

74. During the past 7 days, how many times did you eat green salad?			
	Number of Students	Percent of Total	
NONE	723	57.75	
1-3 TIMES	357	28.51	
4-6 TIMES	73	5.83	
ONCE PER DAY	52	4.15	
TWICE PER DAY	26	2.08	
3 TIMES PER DAY	9	0.72	
4+ TIMES PER DAY	12	0.96	

Frequency Missing = 57

75. During the past 7 days, how many times did you eat potatoes?		
	Number of Students	Percent of Total
NONE	525	42.30
1-3 TIMES	461	37.15
4-6 TIMES	132	10.64
ONCE PER DAY	54	4.35
TWICE PER DAY	29	2.34
3 TIMES PER DAY	13	1.05
4+ TIMES PER DAY	27	2.18

Frequency Missing = 68

76. During the past 7 days, how many times did you eat carrots?			
	Number of Students	Percent of Total	
NONE	877	70.27	
1-3 TIMES	254	20.35	
4-6 TIMES	42	3.37	
ONCE PER DAY	27	2.16	
TWICE PER DAY	20	1.60	
3 TIMES PER DAY	9	0.72	
4+ TIMES PER DAY	19	1.52	

Frequency Missing = 61

77. During the past 7 days, how many times did you eat other vegetables?		
	Number of Students	Percent of Total
NONE	385	30.97
1-3 TIMES	488	39.26
4-6 TIMES	196	15.77
ONCE PER DAY	82	6.60
TWICE PER DAY	49	3.94
3 TIMES PER DAY	11	0.88
4+ TIMES PER DAY	32	2.57

Frequency Missing = 66

78. During the past 7 days, how many glasses of milk did you drink?			
	Number of Students	Percent of Total	
NONE	287	23.28	
1-3 TIMES	322	26.12	
4-6 TIMES	221	17.92	
ONCE PER DAY	137	11.11	
TWICE PER DAY	117	9.49	
3 TIMES PER DAY	55	4.46	
4+ TIMES PER DAY	94	7.62	

Frequency Missing = 76

79. On how many of the past
7 days did you exercise or
participate in physical activity
for at least
20 minutes that made you
sweat and breathe hard, such
as basketball, soccer
running, swimming
laps, fast bicycling, fast
dancing, or similar aerobic activities?

	Number of Students	Percent of Total
0 DAYS	335	27.10
1 DAY	137	11.08
2 DAYS	117	9.47
3 DAYS	133	10.76
4 DAYS	91	7.36
5 DAYS	123	9.95
6 DAYS	48	3.88
7 DAYS	252	20.39

80. On how many of the past
7 days did you participate
in physical activity for
at least
30 minutes that did not make
you sweat or breathe hard,
such as fast walking,
slow bicycling, skating, pushing
a lawn mower/mopping floors?

	Number of Students	Percent of Total
0 DAYS	529	42.97
1 DAY	165	13.40
2 DAYS	129	10.48
3 DAYS	103	8.37
4 DAYS	62	5.04
5 DAYS	54	4.39
6 DAYS	29	2.36
7 DAYS	160	13.00

81. On how many of the past 7 days did you do exercise to strengthen or tone your muscles, such as push-ups, sit-ups, or weight lifting?

	Number of Students	Percent of Total
0 DAYS	387	31.75
1 DAY	132	10.83
2 DAYS	155	12.72
3 DAYS	140	11.48
4 DAYS	77	6.32
5 DAYS	99	8.12
6 DAYS	27	2.21
7 DAYS	202	16.57

82. On an average school day, how many hours do you watch TV?		
	Number of Students	Percent of Total
NO TV	91	7.47
LT ONE HOUR	112	9.20
1 HOUR	114	9.36
2 HOURS	163	13.38
3 HOURS	204	16.75
4 HOURS	150	12.32
5+ HOURS	384	31.53

Frequency Missing = 91

83. In an average week when you are in school, on how many days do you go to physical education classes?		
	Number of Students	Percent of Total
0 DAYS	712	64.85
1 DAY	53	4.83
2 DAYS	15	1.37
3 DAYS	14	1.28
4 DAYS	9	0.82
5 DAYS	295	26.87

84. In an average week when you are in school, on how many minutes do you spend actually exercising or playing sports?

	Number of Students	Percent of Total
NO PE CLASS	715	64.88
LT 10 MINUTES	40	3.63
10-20 MINUTES	61	5.54
21-30 MINUTES	53	4.81
31-40 MINUTES	53	4.81
41-50 MINUTES	92	8.35
51-60 MINUTES	33	2.99
OVER 60 MINUTES	55	4.99

Frequency Missing = 207

on how many sports teams did you play?		
	Number of Students	Percent of Total
0 TEAMS	557	46.11
1 TEAM	305	25.25
2 TEAMS	159	13.16

Frequency Missing = 101

187

15.48

3+ TEAMS

86. During the past 12 months, how would you describe your grades in school?		
	Number of Students	Percent of Total
MOSTLY A's	352	29.24
MOSTLY B's	438	36.38
MOSTLY C's	236	19.60
MOSTLY D's	44	3.65
MOSTLY F's	13	1.08
NONE OF THE ABOVE	5	0.42
NOT SURE	116	9.63

Frequency Missing = 105

87. Have you ever been taught about AIDS or HIV infection in school?		
	Number of Students	Percent of Total
YES	834	71.34
NO	223	19.08
NOT SURE	112	9.58

Frequency Missing = 140

Internet Resources for Educators, Parents, and Teens

For more information about the Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) and the risk behaviors it covers, please see the following Internet resources.

The Youth Risk Behavior Study

This page is the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC's) overview of the methods, results, and uses of YRBS data. http://www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/dash/yrbs/ov.htm

Violence

These sites include information about warning signs and prevention of violence among adolescents.

The American Psychological Association's site about youth violence warning signs, and information about how to get help for violent youth. http://helping.apa.org/warningsigns/index.html

This information about understanding violent behavior among youth is provided by the <u>American Academy of Adolescent and Child Psychiatry</u>. http://www.aacap.org/publications/factsfam/behavior.htm

Tobacco, Alcohol, and Other Drug Use

These pages provide information about tobacco, alcohol, and other drug use prevention, and treatment for youth and their families.

The <u>Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids</u> is the country's largest non-government initiative ever launched to protect children from tobacco addiction and exposure to second-hand smoke.

http://www.tobaccofreekids.org

<u>Arkansans for Drug Free Youth</u> is an organization dedicated to educating and motivating Arkansas youth, families, and communities in the development of healthy, drug free youth.

http://www.adfy.com

<u>PREVline (Prevention Online)</u> offers hundreds of files about alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs from the National Clearinghouse for Alcohol and Drug Information. http://www.health.org</u>

Teen Pregnancy and Sexual Behavior These sites provide information about teen sexuality, pregnancy, and STD's.

The <u>Alan Guttmacher Institute</u> provides reliable, balanced, nonpartisan information on sexual activity, contraception, abortion, and childbearing. http://www.agi-usa.org/home.html

The mission of the <u>National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy</u> is to prevent teen pregnancy by supporting values and stimulating actions that are consistent with a pregnancy-free adolescence. Their site contains tips for teens, parents, and faith communities on ways they can help prevent teen pregnancy and the spread of sexually transmitted diseases.

http://www.teenpregnancy.org/

Nutrition and Physical Activity

The following sites are dedicated to providing information about healthy eating and exercise.

The <u>American Dietetic Association</u> promotes optimal nutrition and well being for all people.

http://www.eatright.org

The <u>American Council on Exercise (ACE)</u> is committed to promoting active, healthy lifestyles and their positive effects on the mind, body and spirit. http://www.acefitness.org/

Mental Health Issues

This sites provides information regarding mental health issues including depression, suicide, mental illnesses, and how to get help.

The <u>National Mental Health Association</u> is dedicated to promoting mental health, preventing mental disorders and achieving victory over mental illnesses through advocacy, education, research and service. http://www.nmha.org

Parenting Teens

These links connect to sites for parents of teenagers. Issues covered include tips for communicating with teens, health, education, substance abuse, eating disorders, and other topics of interest to parents of teenagers.

From About.com, a site with original articles about parenting and links to other sites of interest to parents of teens.

http://parentingteens.about.com/home/parenting/parentingteens/

From <u>Parent's Soup</u>, a site with articles and information from educators, experts, and parents.

http://www.parentsoup.com/community/teens.html

Links for Teens

The following sites are designed for teenagers with content by teens covering a variety of topics including health and education, creative expression, and practical advice.

About.com's site for teenagers, including message boards and creative writing from real teens.

http://teenexchange.about.com/kidsteens/ktteens/teenexchange/

<u>Teen Voice</u> is a youth magazine covering issues facing teenage girls and young women today including topics such as health, education, substance abuse, and body image.

http://www.teenvoices.com

Miscellaneous

The <u>Annie E. Casey Foundation</u> is a private charitable organization dedicated to helping build better futures for disadvantaged children in the U.S. http://www.aecf.org

The U.S. Department of Health & Human Services http://www.dhhs.gov

"Assets have tremendous power to protect youth from many different harmful or unhealthy choices. In addition to protecting youth from negative behaviors, more assets increase the chances that young people will have positive attitudes and behaviors."

Everyone - parents and guardians, grandparents, teacher, coaches, friends, youth workers, employers, youth, and others - can build assets. It doesn't necessarily take a lot of money. But it can make a tremendous difference in raising confident, competent and caring young people. What it takes is building relationships, spending time together, and being intentional about nurturing positive values and commitments.

To find our more about the "Asset Building" efforts in St. Francis County, contact:

Melissa Ward, R.N.

Hometown Health Leader

St. Francis County Health Unit

Forrest City, AR 72335

870-633-1340 or mlward@healthyarkansas.com

or

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Forrest City, AR 72335

870-261-1730 or sbryant@uaex.edu